FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 OCTOBER 1980

American Hostages

According to a Stockholm radio correspondent, Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said that the Majlis Special Commission on the hostages will propose a "plan" on their fate "at the end of this week at the latest" and that the Majlis will decide on the Americans "immediately" thereafter. After that, Rafsanjani declared, it will be up to the Iranian Government to implement the decision. Rafsanjani also stated that Iran may be satisfied with a "promise" concerning its demand for U.S. noninterference in its internal affairs.

In a New York press conference, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i broached the hostage issue despite authoritative Iranian denials that he would not deal with it during his stay in the United States. According to AFP, a spokesman for Raja'i had said the prime minister would make "no pronouncements" on the hostages, "directly or indirectly," and Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani had stated that Raja'i did not intend to discuss "any issue not directly related to the purpose behind his trip" to the United Nations. Furthermore, reiterating that Raja'i went to New York only to explain Iran's position in the war with Iraq, UN Envoy 'Ali Shams Ardekani, in an interview with AYADEGAN reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service, said nobody wants to discuss the hostage issue "under the circumstances we are living in."

In his New York press conference, reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service, Raja'i explained that the hostages had been seized not by the government or any "faction" but by the Muslim people of Iran in expression of their "rejection of oppression." He said that as a result of the occupation of the U.S. Embassy, the world has become aware of the "extent of the U.S. crimes" against Iran and of those committed by "other big powers." Raja'i went on to reiterate that the fate of the hostages is up to the Majlis, which will make a decision "soon," and declared that while U.S. "intervention" in the Iran-Iraq war would not "obstruct" a solution to the question, it would certainly "delay" it. He went on to say he would consider it a "sign of U.S. good intentions toward solving the crisis with the Iranian people" if America would withdraw the AWACS Aircraft from Saudi Arabia, stop supporting Jordan and "other countries" in the region and cease its "hostile acts" against the Iranian people.

Commenting on the broader ramifications of the hostage issue in a statement reported by AFP, Mohammad Musavi Kho'ini, a member of the Majlis Special Commission on the hostages, said it would be incorrect to interpret a "possible release" of the Americans as indicating a "drastic change" in Iranian foreign policy. Iran, he told AFP, would continue to "keep its distance" from those countries that have objected to the holding of the hostages.

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Raja'i UN Speech--In his speech to the UN Security Council, carried by Tehran radio, Prime Minister Raja'i said Iran's "final statement" on the war is that it will not end until the "aggressor is crushed and punished," and he declared that Iran is determined to do this, if necessary, by a "war of attrition, a people's war." He also alleged that the Iraqi war on Iran is actually a "united and coordinated struggle" by the superpowers against his country as illustrated by the "shipment of Russian weapons through the American Jordan" to Iraq. Again referring to alleged superpower enmity toward Iran, Raja'i declared that the war will be won by the revolutionary faith of the Iranian people and not by American AWACS aircraft and Soviet Tupolevs. He charged that the United States is using AWACS aircraft in Saudi Arabia to monitor the deployment of Iran's Armed Forces and is reporting their disposition to the Iraqis and that these planes are hampering Iran's radar systems.

The prime minister also rejected Iraq's official reasons for its attack on Iran as presented to the Security Council by Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi, averring that Tehran has not violated the Algiers agreement, that Iraq has not the "slightest claim or grievance" against Iran and that, in any case, Baghdad had earlier agreed to "cancel" all its claims. According to Raja'i, it was Iraq that breached the agreement by continually interfering in Iran's internal affairs; endangering its security by sending Ba'thist "agents," mercenaries and armed bands into the border provinces and helping counterrevolutionary elements in those areas; and harboring those being sought by the Iranian revolution for crimes against the people.

Replying to Raja'i's speech, Foreign Minister Hammadi, in a statement reported by INA, reiterated the Iraqi stand he had presented in his 15 October speech to the Security Council.

Mediation Efforts--According to Karachi radio, on 17 October Pakistani President Ziaul Haq appealed to Iraq and Iran to "suspend hostilities" from 18 to 22 October during the Hajj. The radio said Ziaul Haq had informed the combatant governments of his proposal through the Iranian charge d'affaires and the Iraqi ambassador in Islamabad and had sent messages to all heads of state of the members of the Islamic Conference asking them to lend weight to his appeal. Monitored Iraqi and Iranian media, however, have not acknowledged the proposal and fighting has continued unabated.

In further developments in Ziaul Haq's mediation efforts, Kuala Lumpur radio reported that the Pakistani president has appointed an Islamic Conference negotiating team to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. According to the radio, the team comprises Malaysian Prime Minister Hussein Bin Onn, Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti. In reporting on Prime Minister Raja'i's 20 October visit to Algeria, Algiers radio made no mention of any discussions Raja'i and Bendjedid might have had on the Gulf war or the role of the Islamic Conference mediation team.

Treatment of General Ziaul Haq and his government's policy by Iranian Urdu broadcasts, however, indicate that Iran may not be receptive to his mediation efforts. A commentary carried by Tehran radio's Urdu service said he is asking the Pakistani people to be neutral in the Gulf war while at the same time he is "toeing the line" of the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the UAE. In addition, "for a few million dollars" he has paved the way for "American Islam" under the guise of helping the Afghan Muslim insurgents. A commentary by Zahedan radio's Urdu service also noted Ziaul Haq's call on his people for neutrality in the Iraq-Iran war, but it pointed out that the Pakistani people support Iran with their "hearts and souls" and have carried out anti-American demonstrations inspired by the Iranian revolution. The radio went on to say that Ziaul Haq has used these demonstrations as an excuse to "stifle the political atmosphere." It also noted that the inequitable distribution of wealth in Pakistan and the present regime's policy of "suppression" are other sources of "dissatisfaction" with the present government. However, neither radio commentary called for the overthrow of General Ziaul Haq's government.

Habib Chatti is currently in Iran where, according to Tehran radio, he held talks with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in Dezful on 18 October, after which Bani-Sadr proclaimed that Iran will not pay Saddam Husayn any "ransom." Karachi radio reported that Chatti found the talks "very useful." According to AFP Chatti met with Ayatollah Khomeyni on 20 October and described his session with him as "important" and "interesting." Chatti was also in Baghdad on 16 and 17 October. Brief INA reportage on his stay in Iraq did not indicate whether he had made any progress in his peace efforts.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY, citing the Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR, reported that Iran has notified PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat of its agreement with his proposal to convene a meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau to discuss the Iraq-Iran war. The agency also carried a report published by the weekly newspaper MONDAY MORNING saying that Palestinian leader Salah Khalaf unveiled a PLO plan to end the conflict. It consists of four stages: declaration of a cease-fire; Baghdad's announcement of its readiness to withdraw to the

borders stipulated in the 1975 Algiers agreement or in the 1913 Constantinople accord; Tehran's announcement of its willingness to begin direct negotiations with Iraq in a neutral country upon the latter's withdrawal of forces as earlier stipulated; the supervision of the withdrawal of Iraqi forces by the Islamic or nonaligned states, after which negotiations would begin. Monitored Iraqi and Iranian media have made no reference to the proposed Nonaligned Coordination Bureau meeting or the PLO peace plan.

Iraqi Claims of U.S. Bias--According to INA, the Baghdad paper ATH-THAWRAH, the organ of the Ba'th party, accused the Carter administration of a pro-Iran tilt in its stance on the Gulf war. The 17 October issue said that President Carter has demonstrated "further absurdity and disregard of facts" by attacking Iraq and adopting a "clearly biased" attitude in favor of Iran. The paper said the U.S. President's "feverish election showmanship," the timing of his statements on the Gulf war with the arrival in New York of Prime Minister Raja'i, the comments by presidential adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and the "Zionist enemy's threats" served to reconfirm the "tripartite alliance" among President Carter, Prime Minister Begin and Ayatollah Khomeyni. In its 18 October issue, the paper said the last bubble of U.S. neutrality burst when the United States "hinted" to Prime Minister Raja'i that Washington would supply Iran with military equipment in return for release of the hostages. The paper declared that U.S. "opportunism, hypocrisy" and "partiality" toward Iran are in harmony with the U.S. plans of "aggressive intervention" in the Gulf.

Trying to discredit Tehran media's attacks on the United States, a Baghdad radio commentary said it is strange that Tehran's propaganda organs denounce the United States and curse its officials while Prime Minister Raja'i "throws himself in the lap" of President Carter and Secretary of State Edmund Muskie.

Military Situation--Iraqi Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah, in comments to ATH-THAWRAH reported by INA, said the Iraqi forces have "accurately" achieved their "principal missions" in general and are "tightening the siege" around Abadan in particular. Tehran radio reported on 19 October that Iranian forces had driven the Iraqis 10 km back from Abadan, but only 3 hours later it admitted that the enemy had taken up positions "near" the city. It also said street fighting has continued in Khorramshahr for the past several days. Tehran radio did admit, however, that the situation in Khorramshahr and Abadan is dangerous, as Iraqi forces have been increasing efforts to complete the encirclement of both cities and there are opportunities for the Iraqis to take the two strongholds in a "sudden onslaught." In a statement made to the radio, the Abadan governor indicated the seriousness of the situation by saying that the defenders of Abadan and Khorramshahr are hoping to receive "urgent help" from other parts of the country and are convinced that the Iranian people will not "abandon" them and will "swiftly" come to their aid. In other action in Khuzestan, Tehran radio reported a "severe" missile bombardment of civilian areas of Ahvaz and an Iraqi retreat on the fronts around Andimeshk and Dezful. Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, however, reported that Iraqi forces have "silenced" the enemy combat line in the Dezful sector.

Tehran radio also reported Iranian battle successes on all western fronts and advances west from the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, heavy fighting in the Gilan-e Gharb area, commando clashes in the city of Qasr-e Shirin and airborne operations in Bostan and Ilam. Monitored Iraqi media have not recently reported their version of ground activities on fronts other than the Khuzestan battlefield.

According to Iraqi General Command communiques, carried by Baghdad radio, Iranian aircraft raided Baghdad, As-Sulaymaniyah, Maysan, At-Ta'min and Wasit and Iraqi aircraft bombed Tabriz, Naqadeh, Bandar-e Shahpur and Bandar-e Mahshahr. Tehran radio added that Iraqi MiG's also carried out sorties against Khark Island and Bushehr. Both sides claimed the downing of several enemy aircraft.

An unattributed commentary carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses said sources "close" to the Syrian Government have disclosed that over 2,000 Syrian soldiers are fighting with the Iranian forces. The radio said the Syrian troops are not organized into regular units but participate as "volunteer experts."

Shipping Developments--INA reported that Iraq has rejected UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's proposal on the evacuation of vessels from the Shatt al-'Arab under the UN flag. The agency said that President Saddam Husayn advised Waldheim that all ships in that waterway must fly the Iraqi flag. INA also reported that Iraq is towing vessels caught in the port of Khorramshahr to Iraqi ports and that it has arranged for the repatriation of more than 1,000 seamen.

A Foreign Ministry statement, carried by Tehran radio, reiterated that Iran will "spare no efforts" to ensure that the Strait of Hormuz is kept open. However, it said Iran's guarantee to this effect will in no way deter it from "enforcing its rights in relation to hostile states." The radio also reported that the governor of Hormozegan Province, after meeting with naval officials and the under secretary of the Commerce Ministry, gave assurances that "there is no cause for concern" over the passage through the strait of merchant shipping of all countries except Iraq.

Pahlavi Succession

According to MENA, the secretariat of Shahbanu Farah Diva announced that Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi will become the new shah on 31 October, the date on which her regency will end. MENA said that the new shah will send a message to the Iranian people on that day but no public ceremony or press conference will be held.

PDRY

In a press interview reported by KUNA, President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad denied that the PDRY intends to offer facilities to the Soviet Union if the American presence in the Gulf region and Indian Ocean increases, and he said that Moscow has no need for such facilities because it has no "monopolies" in the area to protect. He also reiterated the PDRY's call on Iraq and Iran to settle their conflict by negotiations, but affirmed that different attitudes on the Gulf war as expressed by the PDRY and the YAR will not affect reunification efforts to reunite the country.

Afghanistan

Afghan-Soviet Statement--TASS and Kabul radio on 19 October carried the text of the Soviet-Afghan statement signed 3 days earlier by Leonid Brezhnev and Babrak Karmal. Noting the "limited Soviet military contingent" currently in Afghanistan, the statement said that its "withdrawal can be examined in the context of a political settlement and not before an end is ultimately put to the aggression against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and guarantees are given of nonresumption of subversive activities from abroad against the Afghan people and their government." The statement said that a political settlement of the Afghan situation could be achieved by ending outside intervention and by reaching "appropriate agreements" between Afghanistan and its neighbors, particularly Pakistan, on the basis of the Afghan Government's proposals of 14 May 1980. The statement also called for Iraq and Iran to settle the "disputed issues" between them through negotiations on a "mutually acceptable basis." In addition to expressing agreement on other aspects of international relations, the two countries declared their "profound satisfaction" with the development of their bilateral ties.

Coup Plot--According to Karachi radio, citing reports received from Kabul, Soviet forces recently foiled a plot to overthrow the Babrak Karmal government. No details were given.

Libya

AFP: Citing the Paris Arabic-language paper AL-MUSTAQBAL, reported that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will visit Moscow "soon" on a trip that will mark a "qualitative change" in Libyan-Soviet relations. "Well-informed sources" in Damascus told the paper that Libya and the Soviet Union will sign a friendship treaty similar to that between the USSR and Syria. According to the paper, Al-Qadhdhafi's visit to Damascus to discuss Libya-Syria unification has been postponed until after he returns from Moscow. AL-MUSTAQBAL said that Libyan sources in Paris refused to comment on the report.

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KHOMEYNI ISSUES 'ID AL-ADHA MESSAGE, MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

Message Calls for Steadfastness

LD191812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1637 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Announcer-read message issued by leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Blessed be the auspicious 'Id al-Adha to all Muslims the world over and to the nation of the exalted prophet. Blessed be this great Islamic festival to the world's oppressed who have risen against the arrogant and the satanical. Blessed be it to the great Iranian Islamic nation which has sincreely and courageously risen against the satanical. Blessed be it to the armed forces of the Islamic Republic, to the brave militants of the west and the south who, with Islamic commitment and sacrifice for the sake of the most exalted God, are standing like a dike of iron in a jihad and in defense of the Islamic nation and who are driving away and will drive away the filthy Iraqi Ba'thist Party bloodsuckers and hirelings of the enemies of Islam and humanity. That day is blessed for Islam and Islamic nations when the hands of bloodsuckers and oppressors are cut off from the Islamic nations. That day is blessed for our noble nation when the Islamic Republic in the fullest sense of the word is established in the Islamic nation, and when the progressive Islamic teachings are established instead of antihuman teachings.

O you great Islamic nation, you are now at a two-way junction: The road to eternal happiness and honor under the most honorable shadow of jihad for God and the defense of the Islamic nation and the road to abjectness and eternal shame should you, God forbid, show laxness and coolness in this jihad. I ardently hope that our nation will not allow itself to be subjected to shame, that it will not rest until the downfall of the decadent Iraqi Ba'thist regime and that it will not desist from the jihad until it has liberated the noble Iraqi nation from suppression and the crimes that cast their evil shadows over them.

And you, the fruitful youngsters of Khuzestan, the southern region and other fronts, be steadfast in this arena of honor and defend your Islamic homeland with the utmost effort and sacrifice, for, with the will of the most exalted God, you will be victorious and drive back the soldiers of the devil with the utmost disgrace. And you, the armed forces who are standing against the infidels in Khuzestan and war-stricken borders, be alert and be coordinated, implement the instructions issued by the Supreme Defense Council, avoid disputes and discord, for, God willing, you will embrace God's triumph and come out of the arena with honor and pride.

First, I warn the Iranian people to get prepared and prepare their weapons and be on a state of alert, so that if, God forbid, there is a need for a general mobilization and orders are issued for a general jihad, they can immediately go into the area and defend God's religion and the Islamic nation. Second, I warn the military forces that they, with the utmost diligence and without any delay, should place war materiel, which, praise be to God, they have in their possession in adequate quantities, at the disposal of the combatants, be it the armed forces or other sacrificing youngsters, and that they should not allow the slightest neglect in this matter.

I want the Supreme Defense Council to inform me of the situation on the fronts every day. If it needs forces, it should point this out because enthusiastic youngsters across the country are ready for jihad. Military commanders must immediately equip the volunteers who come to the front and send them to the battle. They must reinforce the ground forces with various weapons and batteries and artillery. They must know that any neglect in this regard will be regarded by God as an unforgiveable sin, and they should beware of consequences.

I assure all fronts that victory will be with Islam and the Islamic nation and that defeat and disgrace will be the lot of your enemies. I pray to exalted God for salvation for the dear martyrs of this imposed war. They have been sacrificed for Islam, and they have achieved eternal martyrdom and permanent honor thanks to his boundless blessings. I humbly offer my congratulations and condolences to their survivors.

You, the committed Muslims, have paid your debt to great Islam and to the exalted God, and taught us the path to sacrifice and loyalty. May exalted God (?make us worthy) of you and not deprive us of this great opportunity.

I strictly stress that steadfastness in this vital matter and vigorous action will be a source of honor for our youngsters. I pray to exalted God for greatness for the Muslims and Islam and for victory of the crusaders for the sake of God.

And peace be upon those who follow guidance.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 19 October 1980

Meets With Khamene'i, Issues Directives

LD171657 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1636 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Imam Khomeyni's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, was received in audience this afternoon by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the latter's residence and held talks with him. During this meeting Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i presented to the nation's imam a report concerning the war in the southern part of the country, and Imam Khomeyni issued the necessary directives.

Also received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi, Khorramshahris Friday imam, who presented the nation's imam with reports concerning events in Khorramshahr and Abadan regions.

Talk With Iraqi Clergyman

GF191615 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] The leader of the Islamic nation and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, this afternoon received Hojjat al-Islam wa al-Muslimin Muhammad al-Baqir al-Hakim, son of the late Ayatollah Muhsin al-Hakim.

Meeting With Qotbzadeh

LD191102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh met and conferred this morning with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic. The meeting dealt with various foreign and domestic issues.

Congratulations on 'Id Al-Adha

JN200954 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Oct 80

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has received a cable of congratulations on the occasion of the blessed Al-Adha feast from King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia. Following is the text of the cable:

His Eminence Imam Khomeyni: the blessed Al-Adha feast has given me the chance to extend to Your Eminence the sincerest congratulations and best wishes. I beseech Almighty God to bestow his care and mercy upon the Muslim people, to grant them victory in life by means of their adherence to God's religion and to have them among the residents of paradise.

Accept our congratulations, and I beseech Almighty God to grant Your Eminence continued good health and success and the fraternal Iranian people happiness and prosperity.

[signed] Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz

The leader of the revolution and the Islamic nation has also received the following cable of congratulations on the occasion of the blessed Al-Adha feast from the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister:

His Eminence Ayatollah Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution of the Islamic Republic of Iran: On the occasion of the blessed Al-Adha feast, I wish to convey my warmest congratulations coupled with my sincere wishes for continued good health and happiness to Your Eminence. I implore Almighty God that the fraternal Iranian people and other Muslims will enjoy the return of this happy day with prosperity and blessings.

[signed] Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah

AFP: KHO'INI DISCLAIMS KHOMEYNI BACKING FOR U.S. HOSTAGE SEIZURE

NC180717 Paris AFP in English 0658 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] Tehran, 18 Oct (AFP)--Iran's religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni did not know in advance of the militant students' decision to seize the U.S. Embassy last November, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohammad Musavi Kho'ini, deputy and Ayatollah Khomeyni's chief representative with the students, said here.

At the same time, despite tacit approval, the ayatollah was not at the time able to agree openly with the students' action, Kho'ini added in the Tehran TIMES newspaper.

Kho'ini is a member of the parliamentary committee responsible for debating the fate of the 52 hostages still being held.

The release of the hostages would not contribute to a thawing of Iran's isolationist policy, he also said.

Iran's determination to be free and independent of superpower influence would still keep it at a distance from countries which objected to the holding of the hostages.

It would be wrong to interpret a possible release as an attitude indicating a drastic change in foreign policy, he added.

REPORTAGE ON RAJA'I TRIP TO UN, SECURITY COUNCIL SPEECH

Arrival in New York

JN171153 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 1700 Oct 80

[Text] Brother Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in New York at eight o'clock, Tehran time. He was received by 'Ali Shams Ardekani, head of the Iranian delegation to the United Nations, and Mohamed Bedjaqui, fraternal Algerian ambassador to the United States. [as heard]

Last night, brother Raja'i stopped for a short while in London en route to New York. He smiled when his car passed slowly by journalists. However, he made not statement. Raja'i is accompanied by a delegation of five members and five journalists.

Message on Iraqi Atrocities

LD171758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] We have just received Prime Minister Raja'i's message from New York from the public relations office of the Prime Minister.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To the Muslim and brave Iranian nation; you oppressed people of Kermanshah: I have come to the United States and to the United Nations in order to convey your red cry against oppression and to relate your epic-making action in the face of aggression by the mercenary Iraqi regime, and I have been informed of the bombing of educational, scientific and residential centers, although some may think that the conscience of mankind is unaware of these crimes. Finding itself helpless in fighting you, the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenary army is ruthlessly dropping bombs on helpless people, and shedding blood and setting on fire innocent children. The crimes committed by these ungodly mercenaries have rendered [name indistinct] and Hitler innocent. Where are these so-called defenders of the human rights when a risen people are annihilated in classrooms, in hospitals and in their homes? I hope these tragedies will help us to continue our path, which is to provide justice and eliminate evil systems.

I express my condolences to the noble, martyr-nurturing and Muslim Iranian people and share their grief in the loss of our loved ones. May God give us all patience and cut off the hands of the oppressors, God willing.

[Signed] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, New York, 17 October

Speech to Security Council

LD190320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Oct 80

["Text" of speech by Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i on 18 October to the UN Security Council--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage indinstinct] We have come here under circumstances in which our country is burning in the fire of an inhuman war created by the Ba'thist government. We are here at a time when the Algerian earthquake has deeply grieved our people and our imam. We are extremely sorry for being unable to help and to meet the needs of our Muslim and Algerian brothers as we would have liked, because of the state of war. I came here yesterday from the battlefront. I saw with my own eyes the dead and the wounded whose sight would pain the spirit of any man, however insensitive he might be. The 9-meter-long surface-to-surface missiles fired on Dezful have destroyed a major part of the town, bringing it down on the heads of the noble and heroic citizens of the town.

While in Dezful, I saw more than 30 wounded babies under 6 months of age who are right now hospitalized in the town's hospital. Saddam Husayn's army, under vain pretexts, or rather, without any pretext, has invaded our territory. It is destroying productive, economic and, especially, residential centers, including hospitals and educational centers, thus murdering our innocent people. The world must know that Saddam's misguided army has no mercy on anything. It has resurrected the memories of Hitler's invasion. In order to perpetuate his dependent government's life for another few days, Saddam has savagely attacked our people who have begun the reconstruction phase of the Islamic Republic. He has invaded with 12 divisions, more than 2,500 tanks, hundreds of jet fighters and considerable weapons.

I learned yesterday aboard the plane that, as a result of bombarding primary schools, secondary schools, a university and a hospital in Kermanshah, more than 1,000 schoolc-children and civilians have been either killed or wounded.

The Iraqi Ba'thist army, having never heard of humanity, will not stop at any crimes should it have the opportunity even for a few minutes, against any residential area in our country. They have looted houses and have even shamelessly raped our women in certain areas. They caputure 18-year old civilians as POW's and, along with other POW's, torture them and then murder them.

We call upon the awakened conscience of the people of the world, particularly the Muslim who hold the same ideological values as we do, to set in judgment. We are grieved, wondering how those who claim to support humanity are remaining silent, faced with these savage and inhuman acts, this open aggression. How can they claim neutrality? How can nations allow their representatives to state in international bodies that they are neutral? We do know that a great many world revolutionaries have come here, demanding their peoples' rights. However, ultimately, it has always been the nations themselves that have managed to put aggressors in their places through their revolutionary (?action) and with their own hands.

Our oppressed and heroic nation, too, being inspired by the life-giving Islamic ideology and under the leadership of the supreme authority, Imam Khomeyni, shall ultimately succeed in defeating the invaders and shall restore our legitimate rights.

We have learned that the world is puzzled by the response and resistance of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces and the Muslim Iranian people vis-a-vis the Saddam army. I openly declare that our nation is determined, even by resorting to a war of attrition, a people's war, not only to put the aggressors in their place, but to familarize, as much as possible, our Iraqi Muslim brothers with the inhuman and dependent nature of Saddam. Also, we are determined to give a crushing response to U.S. imperialism, which is helping the Iraqi Ba'thist government directly and indirectly.

Through its AWACS in Saudi Arabia, America is monitoring deployment of the heroic Islamic Republic Army and then reporting to Iraq. Moreover, by misleading our radar systems, it is giving false targets to our fighters.

We warn those who are shipping weapons, ammunition and spare parts to Iraq through Al-'Aqabah in Jordan to enable the Ba'th army to shed the blood of and set fire to the Muslim and anti-imperialist Iranian people, to burn them and capture them, that their actions shall not remain unanswered. They must know that our nation has decided to stay alive, free and independent to defend its Islamic and humane revolution. God willing, it shall do so.

The superpowers want to impose another Israel on the people in the Middle East. Are the American crimes in crushing the oppressed and brethren Egyptian people and the Muslim people in southern Lebanon not completed yet, that it is trying to establish yet another Israel under the guise of Arab nationalism? Have the Israeli Zionists not been adequate to carry out its crimes in the region that it is helping yet another government, under Saddam, in order to destroy human standards and achieve its power-seeking objectives? However, we are convinced that the fire ignited in the region by Saddam shall burn him, and all those who have been and are helping him.

The aim of the Iraqi regime and its masters is not to capture a piece of land, their main aim is to waste the revolutionary movement of the Muslim people and to topple our Islamic Republic. They want to (?prevent the expansion of the Islamic movement) which has started recently and prevent us in making a free and independent Iran with Islamic and revolutionary dimensions, because the victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran will lead to the defeat of all the satanic powers on earth.

The deprived nations of the world and all those who have been disappointed from East and West must know that our Islamic revolution has opened a new path for all the oppressed of the world. Our revolution gained independence by our nation's power and it will guarantee this independence through the self-sacrifice of our nation without needing any outside help. We believe, and we have found by experience, that what determines the fate of a war is belief and faith, not arms and ammunition. And in accordance with this principle, we now decisively announce that in this war, which was imposed upon us, (?the real winner) will be the Islamic and revolutionary faith of the people, not the American AWACS and not the Russian Tupolevs.

In this war we are not only defending our territorial integrity and economic resources, but we are guarding the human values and honor of the Muslim people of our country. We are fighting to guide humanity towards real humane targets; and we know that this imposed war will finally and certainly lead to the victory of right against evil.

We shall prove to the world that we are able to stand on our own feet without having to resort to Eastern colonialism to help us fight Western colonialism--thus having to pay the highest price to safeguard our independence. The military aggression of Tabas [U.S. abortive hostage rescue attempt] the coup d'etat plot and the attack of Saddam's army and superpowers showed that to resort to force against the Islamic Republic is doomed to failure.

We have suffered thousands of martyrs and wounded so far in this war which was forced upon us, which cannot be made up for by monetary compensation. Instead we are waiting to see the day when the oppressed brothers of Iraq will achieve their freedom and independence and try the criminal Saddam at the Islamic revolution court of Iraq to give him his just desert. And also this must be a lesson for other oppressed nations that they must invest their own resources to gain independence, freedom and human values; because God's tradition is based on helping the oppressed who have risen.

The excuses given by the puppet regime of Saddam for military aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran are:

Saddam, this mercenary of international oppression, having confessed that he, himself, has initiated the military attack against the territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has used the lack of observance of the 1975 treaty as an excuse for this overt aggression. It should be pointed out that, following a mutual agreement in Algeria, at the OPEC conference dated 4-6 March 1975, the treaty regarding the common border and goodneighborly relations and a violation of territorial integrity on 13 June 1975, and four additional agreements on 26 December of the same year, and also a document regarding the final and complete decision for all pertinent demands and problems on the same date and during the exchange of the ratification papers on the above pact between Iran and Iraq, were signed. All the agreements and documents, have been recorded at the UN Secretariat under reference number 14906.

These documents explain the fact that the self-indulgent regime of Iraq has not the slightest claim or grievance and that it has agreed to cancel all its claims.

The oppressed of the world should know that since the beginning of the victory of the revolution, the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran--in spite of the fact that it was not able to request a revision of all its agreements--has not violated in the slightest the said agreement. The interesting point is, a violation and breach of contract has been committed by those who ruled the oppressed people of Iraq at the time of the drafting of the treaty, and whose signatures are at the bottom of the agreements.

Moreover, the violation and breach of agreement occurred while a method for resolving possible differences was included in the agreements.

It is, now, up to the Ba'thist regime of Iraq to present its reasons for this breach of contract. For having broken the contract and aggressed against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Ba'thist regime of Iraq should admit that, either it makes inhumane decisions, or that it has committed foolish criminal and insane acts on the orders of its "international superpower" masters, not with the intention of reforming minds, but to destroy the Islamic revolution.

The breach of the agreements--even before their unilateral abrogation by Saddam Husayn--has come in the following ways:

Continual interference, during the 19 months following the victory of the Islamic revolution, in Iran's internal affairs;

Breach of the contents of the agreements regarding border security, by sending Ba'thist agents and mercenaries and armed groups to the Provinces of Kordestan, Kermanshah, Ilam, Khuzestan, and also helping counterrevolution elements and those opposed to the Islamic Republic of Iran in these provinces, and even in Sistan va Baluchestan;

Harboring and helping those who are sought by the revolution courts on charges of slaughtering people in Iran during the late shah's reign, and also placing all kinds of financial and propagandistic facilities at their disposal, in order to weaken and overthrow the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These elements have two radio transmitters in Iraq at present, and are involved in propaganda against our Islamic revolution.

We will now explain the true motives and reason behind the aggression by the Iraqi regime against Iran. We will also explain the nature of the Iraqi position with regard to the Islamic revolution, as well as the role of the superpowers.

What are the motives and reasons that have forced the Baghdad (?regime) to break the agreement and commit aggression? In order to answer this question, we should first understand the (?position) of the puppet regime of Iraq, and briefly (?review) Saddam's (?previous) stances vis-a-vis Iran's Islamic revolution. The ruling Ba'th party of Iraq is a (?follower) of the famous Michele 'Aflaq; that sly Zionist free-mason who created a so-called "nationalist-socialist" organization with corrupt [word indistinct] racist ideologies in order to corrupt the anticolonialistic and anti-Zionist struggles of the oppressed Muslim Arab peoples.

After the victory of An-Nasir in Egypt and his attack on Western interests in Arabian puppet regimes of the Middle East; and because reactionary regimes like those of Shah Husayn and Shah Hassan were not able to resist the attack on their own; and in order to fight against An-Nasir and "Nasirism", the West brought in seemingly "leftist" regimes. These were regimes that sounded more revolutionary than An-Nasir but which in practice were more conservative than Shah Husayn. One such regime was the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

The history of the Muslim Arab people testifies that the forces of this regime, which is determined to destroy our Islamic Revolution with all its might and military equipment, have never reached the front before the end of the battle. During the wars between the Arabs and the occupying regime of Jerusalem, when this regime shouted anti-Zionist slogans, it never took--and will never take--a practical step against the interests of Zionism or toward the liberation of Palestine.

From an internal point of view, Iraq's regime has brought tyranny and suppression to such an extent that it has martyred through torture in prison a high-ranking source of imitation; namely, Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir Sadr and his esteemed sister.

The stance of Saddam's regime vis-a-vis Iran's Islamic revolution has been hostile from the start, and has worked towards preventing its fruition, or its failure. [as heard]

Mr Raja'i said: The world remembers that the Ba'th regime forced Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution, to leave Iraq at the height of the revolution in order to undermine its success. The friendly and brotherly relations which existed between Saddam and Iran during the late shah's reign turned into a hostile relationship which could not even be compared with his superficial relations with Israel. The propaganda machines of Saddam and his mercenaries began working against our Islamic revolution and Iraq became the base and headquarters of the evil mercenaries of America, the fugitives and well known tyrants like Palizban, Owessi and Sardar Jaf, of the traitor shah's regime and the left and right counter-revolutionaries in Iran. The left and right counterrevolutionaries in Iran are enjoying moral and financial support from Iraq's Ba'thists, and as stated before, radio stations are operating in that country posing as Iranian stations and broadcasting against the Islamic revolution.

We invite the nations of the world to judge, and ask them to ask the puppet regime of Iraq, which claims to be fighting against America: Why did they adopt such a friendly attitude toward the puppet regime of the late shah? And why are they plotting against a regime that--as friend or foe will testify--has delivered irreparable blows to the most vital economic and strategic interests of U.S. imperialism and international Zionism, and has even forced America to resort to direct military invasion, the severence of diplomatic relations and an economic blockade on the Islamic Republic of Iran?

If the anti-American stance of the Iraqi Ba'thists goes beyond words, why did they not even slightly offend the army of the late shah which was run by American advisers? Instead, they attacked the same army that has just been liberated from those advisers. Is this not simply an American mission, with anti-American pretences? The people of the world know these methods very well. During the past few years, we witnessed how the British puppet regime of Ian Smith in Zimbabwe swore at its masters, and even superficially rebelled against them. We do not consider the hostile stance of the Iraqi Ba'thists toward ourselves to be anything but the stance of the superpowers--led by the United States--toward ourselves.

From this platform, we declare to the people of the world that we consider Iraq's military aggression to be part of the continuous plots of global paganism--led by the United States--against our revolution. We regard the attack by the Ba'thist regime of Iraq as aggression by global oppression and [words indistinct] against our Islamic revolution, and see the hand of the arch-Satan and the lesser Satans behind it.

We invite the people of the world, especially the Muslim Arab masses, to ponder on these issues, and we hope that they will arrive at the answers themselves.

How is it that the Ba'thist regime of Iraq--supposing they have differences of opinion with Iran over land--instead of discussing them with Algeria, which, according to mutual agreement, is the arbitrator, embarks on a sudden attack by air, sea and land on the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran? How is it that--at the same time of this attack--the mercenary Bakhtiar went to Iraq and ordered the internal counterevolution to close down the schools in Iran? How is it that the aggression of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq has exceeded the claimed border settlement and has led to the effort to occupy our provinces, especially the oil-rich Province of Khuzestan? How is it that at the same time of Saddam's attack on Iran, the United States considers it as a blessing toward the release of the spy hostages? How is it that Iraq's attack coincided with the extinction of the last separatist flames in Kordestan and the establishment of the last structure of the Islamic Republic, that is, the formation of the Cabinet?

And finally, how is it that the primary helpers of the so-called revolutionary regime of Iraq in this war are the filthiest and the most evil of the reactionary and U.S. puppet regimes like Jordan, Egypt, Morocco and so forth?

As we mentioned, the Jordanian port of Al-'Aqabah has become the most important sea link for Iraq, while Jordanian airports have been turned into Iraqi fighter bases and sanctuaries. Egyptian pilots and missile servicemen are playing the most active role in Iraq, with Jordanian Army units being stationed in that country right now. In view of these instances, can one consider the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's war with Iran as a phenomenon related to Iraq itself, and concerned with a few square kilometers of territory? Under these circumstances, are we not right to view with war as part of a united and coordinated struggle by the superpowers against our Islamic revolution?

In these days of blood and fire and war, we are witnessing the ever-expanding presence of the superpowers' warships and armed forces in the region. We also see how, during this same period, the biggest military contracts are concluded between European governments and Middle East countries. It was during these days that we noted with utter surprise that the same viewpoint [didgah] which refused to participate in the Moscow Olympics because of the Russian military invasion of Afghanistan is now, by accepting the USSR presence in Afghanistan, easily pursuing SALT II negotiations. Can this not be considered the solution to the puzzle of shipment of Russian weapons through the American Jordan to the West-dependent Saddam regime?

We now come to explaining the stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis the imposed war and the manner of ending it. Nations of the world are quite aware that the war between Iraq and Iran is an imposed and unwanted war, as far as we are concerned. The Islamic Republic regime would never have allowed itself to use its forces and weapons against an Islamic country, be it an inhuman regime, instead of fighting the Jerusalem regime when our Palestinian and Arab bretheren are subjected to pressure by international Zionism and world imperialism in their occupied lands, when they have given up their property, lives and homes.

Regrettably, the recent invasion by the Iraqi Ba'thist government resulted in the destruction of a major part of both countries' economic and military potentials. The bullets which ought to pierce the chests of occupiers of palestine are wounding the faithful hearts of our Muslim brethern in order to satisfy the manic ambition of one individual and secure the interests of world oppressors. Following its invasion and after occupying parts of our Islamic territory and killing a great many defenseless civilian people and destroying our towns and factories, the Iraqi Ba'thist government is now chanting the slogan of cease-fire in order to deceive world public opinion. Unfortunately, wittingly or unwittingly, certain governments have supported the slogan.

We state quite clearly that, as in any other war, a just end to this war is impossible unless the aggressor is crushed and punished. This is our main and final statement, for to accept a cease-fire offered by a country whose people are under the boots and gunfire of the enemy, is to consolidate the position of the aggressor and impose aggression on the oppressed country. Our nation is now mourning the deaths and wounding of more than a thousand schoolchildren, as a result of an Iraqi raid on Kermanshah schools. This, in itself, is the best reason to condemn the dependent Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

We also witnessed today that by bombing Abadan hospital, Iraq killed five people and wounded tens of others. These attacks and hundreds of other examples illustrate the savagery of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

In conclusion, I shall say a few sentences on the reason for our participation in the UN Security Council: Islamic teachings and historical experience have shown us that to overcome difficulties one has to rely on God and the people, that it cannot be otherwise. Considering this fact, we are attending the council not because we expect it to bring justice or to repulse aggression. We are convinced that, with the right of veto in the hands of the powerful, and facing other problems, the Security Council is incapable of seriously serving the deprived and oppressed peoples of the world and, secondly, the council's past history points to the fact that in certain cases, under world public opinion pressure, the council had made fundamental decisions, but, as a result of one or more superpowers opposing them, the council could not guarantee the enforcement of these decisions.

Failure to implement the council's resolutions concerning the usurping Israel after 13 years as well as the case of the racist South African regime are clear evidence substantiating our claim. Consequently, our presence in this council is solely to convey the message of oppression of our Muslim and risen people to the people of the world, warning them about the threat of crushing our revolution and its repercussions as well as the struggles by all the chained peoples.

Moreover, in this capacity, we once again warn the superpowers and world oppressors that, in view of their consecutive defeats, they abandon their convulsive struggles and plots against the Islamic revolution of Iran, and remember that they shall never succeed in stopping the growth of our divine revolution which has been reared with the blood of 65,000 martyrs and which has been burgeoning with the blood of thousands of postrevolution martyrs.

Rejects Talks With U.S. Officials

JN190550 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has stated from the rostrum of the United Nations: We announce to the entire world that the Iraqi military aggression is part of a conspiracy by world powers led by the United States.

Before delivering his speech, Raja'i met with Dr Kurt Waldheim, UN secretary general, for 105 minutes.

Brother Raja'i refused to hold talks with Carter, Brzezinski, Muskie and Christopher. He said: We are a people determined to remain alive, free and independent. Brother Raja'i added: Our faith and experience have taught us that faith alone and not weapons determines the fate of war. The Iraqi regime seeks not only to wrest a piece of territory but to topple the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Press Conference on Hostages

JN190747 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] Speaking at a press conference at the UN headquarters, brother Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: Let everyone in the world know that it was not the government nor any faction which embarked on taking the U.S. hostages. No, it was the Muslim people in Iran who took part in this important move. The Muslim people expressed their support for this move by means of marches and demonstrations. Therefore, we must discuss the hostages issue and its roots in terms of the entire Muslim Iranian society. Our people suffered for many years from the injustice of the superpowers, both in the East and West.

It was, therefore, the right of the people, first, to eliminate this injustice and, second, to tell the world that they were oppressed and that they were determined to live freely and independently far from all kinds of oppression and tyranny.

Our population of 36 million expressed its rejection of oppression by seizing the den of U.S. espionage. This oppression had been practiced by the United States against our people.

Brother Raja'i said: The U.S. Embassy--whether in Iran or in any other country--is a center for carrying out plots and intervention in all our domestic affairs. Documents discovered inside the den of U.S. espionage prove that this embassy orchestrated the training of elements and prepared them to assume posts and bring in the governments that were chosen by this embassy. The U.S. Embassy used to open [fath] agreements concluded with other countries. This embassy used to grant the newspaper concessions to individuals such as BAMDAD and AYANDEGAN. We know well that such actions are not within the jurisdiction of a foreign embassy.

The prime minister said: As a result of the occupation of the den of espionage, the world became aware of the extent of the U.S. crimes against our oppressed people. This was also the case of the crimes committed by the other big powers.

Brother Raja'i said: I know the extent of the sufferings of the hostages' families; most of the ministers and I have suffered from the bitterness of imprisonment and are aware of the sufferings of the families, particularly since the hostages are in a foreign country. When we were in prison, our families had no idea if we were dead or alive. I was a prisoner in Carter's jail. I was tortured, and the signs still show on my body even though I was released 4 years ago. As I said, the 52 hostages are the hostages of the Iranian people. Therefore, the imam referred the issue of taking the decision on them to the Majlis, which expresses the people's will. The Majlis has studied the issue of hostages from all aspects. The Majlis defined its stand in the reply message sent to the U.S. congressmen.

The prime minister asserted that measures the United States has adopted under the pretext of rescuing the hostages could have endangered the lives of the hostages. The United States continued its imperialist objectives but under the cover of rescuing the hostages. These include the abortive Tabas operation. Every one of these attempts exposed the life of the hostages to the gravest dangers. The hostages' families must have been as happy as the Iranian people at the failure of the Tabas attempt.

We can see the strings of the U.S. overt and covert intervention in the war imposed on our people. The United States motivated Jordan and other countries under its influence in the area to help Saddam. The United States is reinforcing the Saudi Arabian Army with the AWACS. The United States is reinforcing its naval presence in the Persian Gulf waters. It is also continuously reinforcing its satanical troops in the area. If these attempts do not obstruct the solution of the hostages issues, they will certainly delay a solution. Therefore, our people feel indifferent [words indistinct] in resisting the solution of this issue.

Before the presidential elections, the United States is trying to show U.S. public opinion that it is throwing all its weight behind freeing the hostages and meeting the Majlis conditions.

I tell the hostages' families, U.S. public opinion and all good and free people in the world not to be concerned over the fate of the hostages. The Majlis will soon [qariban] declare the conditions for the release of these hostages. In return, the United States must work with its humanitarian capability [tamala bi qudratiha al-insaniyah] because I will hold the United States responsible for not solving this issue in the future.

The prime minister said: The United States must from today embark upon withdrawing its AWACS from Saudi Arabia and halt its support for Jordan and other countries in the area. The United States must stop its hostile acts against the Iranian people. If it does so, I will consider it as a sign of U.S. good intentions toward solving the crisis with the Iranian people, because the United States knows well that we have no intention of waging a war against Saudi Arabia. The subject of war against Saudi Arabia is not ours.

Brother Raja'i then answered journalists' questions.

Asked if the revolutionary movement is isolated, he said: Our revolutionary course has been clear since the victory of our revolution 2 years ago. I do not feel that we are isolated from the free and liberated peoples of the world, because the Islamic Revolution in Iran has managed to find many friends although they cannot express their opinions in this international organization.

UN ENVOY ARDEKANI COMMENTS ON HOSTAGES ISSUE

JN190834 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0705 GMT 19 Oct 80

[From the press review]

[Text] AZADEGAN carries excerpts of an interview [as heard] by 'Ali Shams Ardekani, the personal envoy of the Iranian prime minister to the United Nations.

Ardekani says: We came here to discuss the issue of the Iraqi aggression against our country at a time when our people are being subjected to the aggressors' bombs and missiles.

Asked by one news agency correspondent about the future of the U.S. hostages, Ardekani said: About 50,000 people were killed in our country. Why this concern about the future of 52 Americans? He added: Iran is in a state of war and you are talking about the hostages. Iran has been a hostage of the United States for more than a quarter of a century. He cited Raja'i as an example of one who had been tortured and imprisoned by the Iranian security department, SAVAK, which was under the direct control of the United States.

He said: Raja'i, who has come to the United Nations, has no nails as a result of the imperialist torture. He added that the Iranian prime minister came to the United Nations to explain the Iranian right and the Iraqi aggression against our country. He added: I don't think that any of us prefers to talk about the hostages issue under the circumstances we are living in.

TEHRAN RADIO EXPLAINS REASON FOR RAJA'I VISIT TO UN

JN190934 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0740 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Brothers, the radio of the agents in Baghdad has said: Why has Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister of the Iranian regime, gone to the United Nations as long as Khomeyni has described the international organization as a center for Satans? The radio added: It is certain that Raja'i will hold side contacts.

Brother Raja'i has gone to the United Nations to explain only the issue of the Iraqi aggression against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He will not discuss in any way whatsoever, directly or indirectly, the issue of the hostages. He will have no other contacts outside of his definite and clear mission. Is this not clear enough?

As to why brother Raja'i has gone to the United Nations, we say the following: This organization is a reality which cannot be ignored.

Representatives of more than 150 countries meet under its roof. That's why it is necessary for a representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to go to the United Nations, to explain and clarify the position, policy, principles and the essence of the glorious revolution of Iran, which is being subjected to foreign aggression backed by foreign forces.

Raja'i has gone to condemn the aggressor, those who back the aggressor and those who remain silent on this aggression and do nothing to check the aggressor, who has trampled international laws and norms and the principles acknowledged and championed by this international organization day and night.

Our prime minister did not go to the United Nations to obtain our rights, or to plead for the repulsion of the aggression because the Islamic revolution and the leader of the Islamic revolution are well aware that this organization has no other function than to repeat what has already been said.

Imam Khomeyni is right when he describes the international organization as a center for Satans. Is there better evidence substantiating Imam Khomeyni's description than the presence of the Zionist entity in the heart of the Islamic world; the existence of 2 million Palestinians who have been deported from their homeland, Palestine; and the existence of scores of memoranda of protest that Arab countries have lodged with the United Nations for more than 30 years, in which they have explained the Palestinian people's cause and sought their rights. As we see them, the Palestinians still sleep under the naked sky with no cover.

Can one obtain better evidence to prove that the United Nations is a center for Satans?

Will the radio of the agents in Baghdad keep silent then?

REPORTAGE ON ACTIVITIES OF MAJLIS SPEAKER RAFSANJANI

Address to Ahvaz Citizens

GF171958 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani during Friday prayers in Ahvaz on 17 October 1980--recorded]

[Excerpts] Now there is an opportunity to speak to you, noble and combatant brothers and sisters, in the resisting city of Ahvaz during this magnificent gathering, about the basic problems of the current war. Since time is short, there will be only a list of these subjects, and there will not be any time for discussions. I will discuss the problems in order and in summary.

1. This is not a war that Iran wanted. It has been forced on us. The Iranian nation, revolution and leadership did not and would not choose to force their will on others through war and the use of strength. We have known since the beginning of the revolution that a revolution cannot be contained within a border. It carries an idea, the message of right, the message of God. [crowd chants "God is great" three times, followed by "Khomeyni is great" and "Death to [word indistinct] Revolution cannot be contained. This caused the Iraqi regime to feel threatened and to start the war.

2. When revolution is produced and [words indistinct] and penetrates society, the enemies of the revolution concentrate all their efforts on stopping the country from becoming known as a successful revolutionary society.

The country that is most ready to have revolution exported to it is Iraq. It is a country where the majority of the population are Shi'a. Some 25 percent of the population is Kurdish, and these two groups are completely against Saddam's government.

The majority of the Sunni brothers, who are revolutionary youths and zealous people, disagree with Saddam. He has no national support in his country. They are overcome by fear that the Iranian revolution might be copied in Iraq. This especially started several months ago when the government's harsh measures against the people did not gain results. They arrested more than 10,000 people and martyred many by torture, such as ayatollah [name indistinct] and his learned sister.

Since they found these activities useless, they decided to attack Iran and deal a blow against the revolution in its birthplace. We have to find the roots of this in Washington. You as Khuzestanis know better than most what the United States has lost in Iran. All the American satellites , the arms cartels, the oil cartels, dependant countries on the United States and the reactionaries of the region have backed Iraq and are using Saddam's puppet regime to attack Iran. They started the attack and forced the war on us. We are sorry that this war is inflicting damage on Islamic countries. If we had not answered this war with war, in the very near future neither Iran nor Iraq would belong to their people. Therefore, we had to go to war.

You are a people who destroyed the shah's regime--which was a thousand times stronger than Saddam's regime--with your fists and the slogan "God is great." In Ahvaz, there were days when bullets were raining on your heads. You are strong people in all parts of the country. How can we compare a few guns and tanks coming from the other side of the border and perhaps firing on us a little, with the hellish power of the shah's regime? Saddam is impotent in his own country. Therefore, we are powerful, but we cannot move like the Iraqis. We cannot fire rockets at the Iraqi people. We are Muslims and are fighting for God. We know that those living in Iraqi cities are like us. They are also oppressed and are under the control of Saddam. Firing rockets at them is not in line with our revolution, and due to this our hands are somewhat tied.

Since we are fighting for our philosophy, we are undefeatable. Our resistance will start from the point when the enemy enters our homeland and our cities. Our resistance will not be in the deserts against the growl of tanks. The day that the hand of the enemy reaches the [words indistinct], then the national resistance should start like in [word indistinct] and Khorramshahr. The enemy reached Khorramshahr in the past by suffering a large number of casualties, and of course martyring many of us.

The thing that will finally defeat Saddam and the United States and anyone else behind Saddam is our feelings. [Words indistinct] in a city where such people live, what can be done by the United States or Saddam? How can they govern such people? Therefore, the end of the war will be to the advantage of Iran beyond a doubt. But we will not be satisfied with the end if it means a return of Iraqi soldiers to Baghdad. This is not enough. It only means a return to the beginning. If Iraq had not started the war, we would not have bothered. We would have waited for the Iraqi nation to sort Saddam out. But they started the war and inflicted damage on us.

The damage in Iraq is also damage to us. It makes no difference to us, since the world of Islam has suffered damage. The posts that have been damaged, the aircraft that have been damaged on both sides should have been used against Israel. The roads that have been damaged, the refineries that have been destroyed, the damaged factories, all the damage that has been inflicted by Iraq on the Muslim society in all the Islamic world. [As heard] Saddam has to answer for this. We support the Iraqi nation so they can take Saddam to court. He will either escape like the shah or he will be tried in his country. Another point is that this war, aside from the material damage that can be replaced and the losses of life that cannot, has brought us many things. It has united our nation. We see very few signs of discontent in all the country. It has shown again that these people support the revolution.

The day that we come out of this war as the victors is not very far away. The day we emerge victorious, the revolution will be known as a mature revolution. The coups, counterrevolutionaries, war, U.S. help, Russian arms, support from Saudi Arabia and Jordan and all the satanic acts of the internal counterrevolutionaries with the cooperation of foreigners can not harm the revolution. This is a mature revolution.

The acts of Abadan citizens yesterday, when they went to Khorramshahr after hearing about the Iraqi entry into the city, has no parallel in the world. Flesh against tanks, fists against cannon and small arms against mortars won in Khorramshahr. This has enormity. [passage indistinct] When we have proven to the world that the revolution is here to stay, the little Satans in the Persian Gulf; the little Satans around the United States and the little Western and Eastern Satans will no longer have any designs on your revolution, and you will be responsible for rebuilding your country and repairing the damage of war. Iraq will have to pay the damages. May the peace of God and his mercy be upon you.

Explanation of Raja'i UN Visit

LD181140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1037 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Elsam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis and a member of the Supreme Defense Council, who had traveled to battlefronts together with other members of this council, was received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. At this meeting Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani briefed the imam on the latest developments and the council's decisions made at the battlefronts, and the situation there, and conferred and exchanged views with the imam on the above-mentioned points. At the conclusion of this meeting the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, at an interview with PARS, summed up the outcome thus:

I explained the situation at the battlefronts and the morale of the people there in detail to the imam and consulted the imam on the thoughts we had with regard to speeding up the battle toward our final victory. The outcome of the Supreme Defense Council's study of the situation during the past few days with respect to several aspects of the battle is being implemented at the moment in order to enable us to conclude the war in Iran's favor as soon as possible. Mr Bani-Sadr was also contacted. His excellency is busily working at the battlefronts [words indistinct] the Supreme Defense Council made a number of decisions and his excellency was satisfied with the progress made. We hope that during the next few days we shall witness better achievements both politically and militarily.

About the trip by the prime minister to the Security Council and his speech at the council, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis said: I have not yet read all his remarks and cannot comment. But about an hour ago when I spoke to him Mr Raja'i was satisfied with the environment at the United Nations because of his presence there and said: The world is looking forward to hear what we have to say and since up to now the loudspeakers of colonialism have been bringing false comments to the ears of the world, our words have had a desirable effect.

The PARS correspondent asked Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani: Did you talk with Mr Raja'i about Carter's offer to meet with him? He answered: Mr Raja'i does not intend to deal with any issue which is not directly related to the purpose behind his trip. He went there to explain Iran's stance in the Iran-Iraq war and he will work on this issue only. If other issues are to be dealt with, relevant discussions should be carried out and decisions made here.

Interview on Battles, Hostages

GF191028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1726 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Interview gien by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker, to Tehran radio reporter on 18 October--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Rafsanjani, considering that you have just returned from a tour of the battle zones, I would like to ask your opinion regarding the coordination there and if you have any messages for our people on this subject.

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We [words indistinct] have sessions at the defense council and it was necessary for some of the people [words indistinct]. It was very useful for planning for the continuation of the war and forecasting future matters. We went to the garrisons and observed closely, talked to the military, talked to members of the air force, army air corps and pilots closely. We went to [words indistinct] and observed the battle zones. Those who returned from the front [words indistinct]. We saw the military, the revolution guards, the mobilization forces, the committees, different groups of people who [words indistinct] in Ahvaz. We contacted the people living in war-stricken areas many times and participated in the Friday prayers and meetings. We went into the streets and the people's places of work to observe everything closely in order to find out about (?effects) of war--you can find out about it much better there--[words indistinct].

Considering all my observations, we arranged some programs since the war may last a long time. The most important point is coordination [words indistinct] since anyone who has faith, and wants to, goes to the battle zone, and this makes coordination a difficult job. The army is easier to coordinate, of course [words indistinct] better coordinated [words indistinct] it is more difficult to coordinate the army and the forces of the people. We repeatedly heard the responsible authorities say that we are moving toward making this a war of the people. We found more faith in these words there. The faith of Khorramshahr completely proves this point. I mean that where people resist and protect their city or district, it becomes impenetrable.

The cities under seige must not be evacuated under any circumstances. The enemy, using various threats, is trying to make the people leave their cities. The places where he has succeeded in this, he has succeeded with military operations. In Qasr-e Shrin the people evacuated early and the city was occupied. Mehran was the same. In Abadan, since the people have stayed longer, our faith along the front is therefore stronger.

[Question] Mr Raja'i has attended the UN Security Council meeting. The U.S. President has indicated a desire to meet him, and U.S. propaganda has made comments about it and issued rumors, one of them being that the freedom of the hostages can be discussed subject to Iran's receiving military equipment and spare parts and other such things. Since the decision on the hostage issue is under the Islamic Assembly's jurisdiction, can you please describe the Majlis' reaction on this?

[Answer] This is not new, of course. The Americans have tried to use means such as foreign ambassadors to contact us and initiate discussions. It was natural that Mr Raja'i's trip would result in the U.S. authorities' trying to talk to him. He had a set program from the start. [Words indistinct] he said that the hostage issue had nothing to do with him and he only went because the Security Council is discussing the Iranian-Iraq war. He is there to defend the Iranian position and tell them the points Iran wants to make.

As far as my information is concerned--I talked with him this morning--he responded that he would not delve into matters outside his jurisdiction. This is a matter for the Majlis to decide.

The spare parts and other such matters are not new either. They have always used this as an excuse to try to lure us into discussions. We said that this matter has nothing to do with the hostage issue. The Majlis is deliberating the hostage issue. The spare parts question is a different matter. We had contracts with the United States in the past, and the past regime had paid them. They pocketed the money and have kept our goods in their customs, where they are gathering dust. It has always been one of our just demands. The United States has to deliver the goods that we bought and paid for. The Majlis has to decide on any exchange of hostages. This is not an issue in which we are asking them for new things.

[Question] What are our conditions for accepting any resolution that the Security Council might issue on the Iranian-Iraqi war?

[Answer] We will accept it if it portrays our just position. But if they want to add other things to it, of course, we will not accept it. We did not start the war; Iraq imposed the war on us. They have wasted our human resources, wasted their own people, which we also consider a loss to us. Anywhere a Muslim is killed (?it is also a loss to us). We have also been damaged financially. Our industry has been destroyed in some cases, damaged in others. If the Security Council makes a point of these things--and we expect it to--if it wants to mediate and ask us to forego some of our rights, then we will not accept (?the resolution).

[Question] Have any conditions been decided upon on this matter?

[Answer] We made a decision prior to this in the Supreme Defense Council under the imam's leadership: that Iraq has committed aggression against us and so long as they are here [the Iraqis are in Iran] we have no alternative other than war.

Talks With DPRK Envoy

LD181724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the ambassador of the DPRK met and conferred with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, at the Majlis this evening.

During this meeting, which lasted an hour, they held talks about the severance of relations between the aggressive Ba'thist regime of Iraq and the DPRK. They also discussed the expansion of political and economic relations between the DPRK and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The ambassador of North Korea at this meeting said: We are prepared to place all our technical experience in the field of agricultural development, particularly rice cultivation, steel industry and [word indistinct] at the disposal of the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

At the end of this meeting Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani expressed the hope that Iran will be victorious in its battle against the superpowers and their puppet mercenaries in the region, such as the Ba'thist regime of Iraq, so that it may employ the experience of independent countries for its own development in all fields.

Meeting With Algerian Ambassador

LD192114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] The Algerian ambassador to Tehran this afternoon met and conferred with Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani at the latter's office.

During the course of this meeting, topics relating to mutual interests and Iran's struggles against the superpowers and the aggression of the Iraq Ba'thist regime against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran were discussed.

During this meeting, the Algerian envoy presented the Majlis speaker with an invitation from his Algerian counterpart to visit Algeria.

Thanking the envoy, the Majlis speaker said, God willing, in the near future, I will ascertain the time of a visit to Algeria and meetings with my brother Algerians following the return of Mr Raja'i, the Iranian prime minister from Algeria.

REPORTAGE ON 18-19 OCT ACTIVITIES OF PRESIDENT BANI-SADR

Address to Khuzestan Forces

LD182032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] According to PARS, Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while continuing his visit to various war zones, paid a visit this afternoon to one of the armed forces bases in Khuzestan and, addressing pilots, air force technicians, NCO's and the personnel of the airborne forces stationed at the base, made some remarks. Referring to the battle between the forces of good and evil, Dr Bani-sadr said: In this war, not only were our military facilities limited, but, because of the economic sanctions, we could not even mobilize the necessary equipment elsewhere. Consequently, we had to fight with the available equipment and compensate for shortages through your efforts, struggle, intelligence and initiative.

Continuing his remarks, he added: Even now the situation is not easy; the enemy has grown weak, but he still enjoys more advantages than we do, for he can make up for what he loses from other countries. However, it is clear that the Iraqi Army is like a frustrated army, as it has not achieved the objectives it was pursuing. As a result, it has become helpless and therefore dropped many bombs on some towns.

Dr Bani-Sadr, the president, emphasized that we must replace war equipment with our [word indistinct] and initiative in order to achieve victory. He also said: Our enemy deployed 10 times as many forces against us as we deployed; therefore, they should have been able to advance as far as they wished. However, they failed, and this was because of your work and struggle--work and struggle with initiative, combined with your unparalleled courage and extraordinarily high moral; work and struggle by all those who have stood up and fought they enemy in air and on land.

Address to Army Commanders

LD191247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1046 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] According to PARS, President and Commander in Chief Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, continuing his visit to Khuzestan, last night met a group of the Islamic Republic Army commanders and officers and discussed the method of fighting the enemy forces. The PARS correspondent adds that in the course of this meeting, also attended by Commander of the Ground Forces Brigadier General Zahir-Nezhak, the president, emphasizing the need for discipline, addressed the army commanders and officers, saying:

You must be prepared to continue the war. Every nation fights, using its capabilities; our nation's capabilities are your will to fight.

We have no option but to triumph. You must compensate your weakness with human strength.

The president then said: In time of war each individual's responsibility is proportionate to his (?duty). An army commander is responsible for the life of a division and the defeat or victory of a country. However, a [word indistinct] is only responsible for himself or four or five other people. You may not pay attention to these issues unless there is a war; you may think that the army has been prepared for a parade. Yet, when the war comes, you claim your commander was not good enough and that he caused your death.

Referring to the point that it is the commander who determines who wins or loses in the war, the president said: choosing a commander is a fundamental issue. There are those who adopt themselves to circumstances and, as it were, become [word indistinct] advisers and appoint commanders or remove commanders or take over the control of a division. If there are such individuals among you, then get together tonight and drive them away, for they are no use in this war; what they do is get people killed.

The president continued: I am making this statement very clearly, because I myself warned against a foreign invasion several times, and when there was talk of discovering the earlier plot, I said that this is the preamble to a subsequent plot, that the plot was hatched in order to discredit the army and then demoralize it. The president stressed that what went on in the past does not necessarily affect the present or the future, that man's skill is in turning the reasons for weakness into reasons for victory and strength. Moreover, until such time as you are engaged in operations, you must create a (?century) from every moment.

Another point which I ought to mention is that war plans must be justified to everyone. For considering the earlier plan, I see that it has not been justified to everyone. Each and every one must know what he is supposed to do. The president and commander in chief then, pointing out that we must seek opportunities for victory and should take advantage of the enemy's weaknesses and defeat him, said: For 2 to 3 weeks I have been insisting to the imam that authority must be centralized in the Supreme Defense Council, so that the Majlis, the prime minister, the president, the army or a division would no longer have their own policy, but with all gathering at one place, we would pursue one policy. This resulted in making [word indistinct] military operation healthy. If you like, you can compare it with the situation before that, when every day someone would express a point of view.

Emphasizing the (?priority) that we must believe that we shall be victorious, the president said: Since the enemy failed to achieve anything when we were completely weak, then when we take full advantage of his weakness, do not rush things and make full use of our own forces, there is no reason why we should not achieve victory. During the past 2 days we achieved two (?things): one was [word indistinct] information and the other was making use of it; that is, we saw to it that each piece of information was placed where it belonged. As a result, heavy losses have been inflicted on the enemy. Consequently, should we make use of other experiences in the coming days, then we can render the enemy so weak as to make our forces vanquish it.

On the repercussions of defeat or victory of the army in and out of the country, and while stressing the importance of [word indistinct] information for the defeat of the enemy, the president said: In this moment in our history we shall not forgive anyone for his mistake or weakness; nor do we accept any excuse. If you achieve victory, then you are heroes and if you are defeated you are helpless individuals.

I do hope that as of right now you shall be more active, you must attend to this army day and night, and turn every minute into a century to compensate for deficiencies; once you achieve victory, this was will be recorded by history, becoming one of the wonders of contemporary era.

In conclusion, the president emphasized: I shall do everything I can to achieve victory; I have no objective other than saving the country by this victory. Just as my objective is to save the country, so am I convinced that we shall triumph, that it is we who must demonstrate skill in these difficult periods. One can see this skill in your behavior. If you see that your soldiers are ready and determined, then we shall know that we are victorious. He who perseveres shall win the war. I do hope that all of you, enjoying strong hearts, remain determined to fight.

Meetings With Chatti, Cuba's Malmierca

LD200608 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0458 GMT 20 Oct 80

[Text] According to PARS, Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, and [Isidoro Malmierca] the Cuban foreign minister met separately last night with Dr Bani-Sadr, the president and the commander in chief, in a city in Khuzestan Province. They discussed the war between Iran and the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

The Cuban minister of foreign affairs told PARS after this meeting: In this meeting, issues regarding the war between the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and Iran were discussed and reviewed. The Cuban foreign minister expressed hope that the relations between his country and Iran would expand as soon as possible since both nations have a common enemy--U.S. imperialism.

In an interview with a PARS correspondent after this meeting, President Bani-Sadr said: The points raised by these two gentlemen were similar. They reported that the Iraqi Government had told them that it had started the war because the border situation was not determined. We replied: Why did they not tell us beforehand that they had border disputes with us? Now, after 45 [as heard] days of war, they remember these matters. These are excuses; they Iraqi Government is a criminal one. They have attacked and we have no discomfort [as heard] They are in our deserts and we crush them from dawn until dusk.

The president added: A spirit of Islamic fraternity and ideology exists between the nations of Iran and Iraq. This man, Saddam Husayn, is so criminal that he has made enemies out of these people who are so (?sincere). Now they are killing each other. We cannot easily forgive this. They are (?at war with us) and we are at war with them. We shall not pay them ransom to remove their army. Saddam wanted to destroy our regime and now we shall not pay him any ransom. We are capable and have sufficient means to (?destroy) the enemy right here. However, we are in no hurry to do so.

President Bani-Sadr said: We asked him [not further identified] to appoint a committee to find out why Iraq has attacked our country so that the truth will come out in the open. The president said in conclusion: Mr Chatti proposed that a committee selected from a number of governments should come to Iran. I replied that we would discuss it with the Defense Council member and then give an answer.

KHAMENE'I VISITS WESTERN REGION WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS

GF171334 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i the Tehran Friday imam and member of the Supreme Defense Council--accompanied by the rest of the council's members--has been to the western part of the country. In a short statement, he said that during this visit he saw from a short distance the concentrated efforts of the brothers from the army and the revolution guards, who are still defending their country in Dezful, Ahvaz, Khorramshahr and Abadan.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i added that the presence of the members of the Supreme Defense Council in the region has revealed more facts about the war, as they were able to adopt suitable measures. The Tehran Friday imam discussed the future of the war and said: I am certain that victory is at our side, although it will not be possible to end the war in the near future.

KHAMENE'I 'ID SERMON NOTES EXTERNAL SUPPORT, OPPOSITION

JN200738 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0522 GMT 20 Oct 80

[Sermon by Tehran Friday Imam Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha at Tehran university mosque in Persian with superimposed Arabic translation--live]

[Excerpt] Our revolution is an independent and popular one. We are not dependent; nor are we dependent on any world power, no matter how big or small. We will not depend on any power.

Needless to say, we appreciate the governments which support us by their words and political stands like the Governments of Algeria, Libya and Syria. We also appreciate their sound and healthy support for Iran's war against imperialism. We appreciate their performance of their duties toward justice.

However, those governments which have adopted hostile stands should understand--and we tell them--that they will face the high waves of the Islamic revolution that cannot be confronted by anyone.

I tell the corrupt shah, the shah of Jordan, that any government which adopts a hostile stand toward the Islamic Republic must understand that it will face the great waves of the Islamic revolution.

On your behalf and in my own name as a religious scholar, I tell the governments and heads of states who have not so far taken hostile stands that our war is one between atheism and Islam and that they must side with Islam.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON STRAIT OF HORMUZ

LD191836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1656 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] In connection with the guarantee given by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the Strait of Hormuz, the following statement was released tonight by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In the name of God. Since, once again, a number of news items and reports concerning the Strait of Hormuz have been issued and since it is possible that these reports may serve as an excuse for an interruption in the navigation of ships in this waterway, the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran once again declares that Iran wants this vital waterway to remain open and will spare no efforts, as far as it is in its power, in order that this task may be realized.

Naturally, the Government of Iran's interest in and guaranteeing of the Strait of Hornuz remaining open will in no way deter Iran from enforcing its rights in relation to hostile states.

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

AYATOLLAH MONTAZERI VISITS KERMANSHAH 18 OCT

GF191329 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] The scholar and great struggler, Ayatollah Montazeri, arrived in Kermanshah yesterday afternoon to inspect the war front, visit the wounded and inquire about the martyrs' families in the western region of the country, especially the martyrs of Kermanshah, who were victims of the traitorous attack by agent Iraqi Ba'thists on the schools, hospitals and housing areas in heroic Kermanshah.

Ayatollah Montazeri said the purpose of his visit to the war front was to be present among the fighting soldiers of Islam, who are defending the Islamic Republic of Iran. His eminence added that it is the religious duty of Muslims in Iran to participate in this defense as much as possible and by whatever means available.

TEHRAN RADIO CARRIES COMMENTARIES ON U.S. HOSTAGES

U.S. Spare Parts for Hostages

LD171934 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1653 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to a PARS report, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, who is leading a delegation to the UN Security Council to discuss the aggression by the Iraqi regime on Iranian territory, arrived in New York at 0800 this morning.

At the same time of this mission by our prime minister, Carter, the super oppressor of the world, once again resorted to a new plot, in line with his designs and plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran and other oppressed peoples of the world. He has announced that he wishes to have a meeting with Mr Raja'i, the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to discuss the issue of the hostages.

On the other hand Zionist news agencies of the world--these imperialist propaganda tools--and the radios defending the interests of oppressors and vested interests of influential quarters, by creating a false propaganda climate, are trying to present the invitation made by Carter, this great warmonger, as a favorable and peaceful offer, thus paving the necessary ground for the rumor on meeting and the talks, which they themselves have deviously concocted.

It appears that the defenders of the White House have forgotten that the revolutionary, Muslim and (?peaceful) Iranian nation, as well as the vigilant leaders of our Islamic land, shall nip in the bud through their sagacity and vigilance any plot or design natched by these extremist individuals, thus negating all their designs and preconceived plots, plots emanating from their sick minds.

The contradictory views expressed by U.S. decisionmakers concerning Iran are also interesting. While U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie has announced that as soon as the 52 American hostages are released, the United States will deliver ammunition and military equipment to Iran, the Voice of America, citing a State Department spokesman, has totally denied this report, referring to it as false. In the meantime we have learned that the spokesman of the occupying regime in Jerusalem, this twin associate of Baghdad, has raised its voice and has issued the most ludicrous and idiotic proposal made by the West.

Tel Aviv has announced that if Iran changes its policy toward the occupying regime in Jerusalem, then Iran can rely on its military aid.

These contradictory, idiotic and multifaceted remarks by Washington diplomats are an indication that the main enemy of the Islamic revolution continues to be perplexed and puzzled by the stalwart position taken by the revolutionary forces concerning the U.S. hostages. These American politicians have forgotten that, to begin with, our main war is with the United States. If we are now facing the Iraqi mercenary aggression, we, in fact, consider it to be an aggression by the United States, which, by equipping reactionary and mercenary regimes, like that of the Iraqi atheist regime, as well as other identical ones, like that of Jordan's King Husayn, Egypt's President as-Sadat and Morocco's King Hassan, has encouraged and protected the criminal Saddam in launching an aggression against the sanctity of the territory of the Islamic revolution. One should ask these imbeciles: How can one meet a criminal who for long years exploited our Muslim nation and imposed the Pahlavi dictatorship on it? As for now, the United States is actually in a state of war against us.

Second, the ringleaders of American exploitation are under the illusion that the victory of the brave Iranian warriors is solely based on war equipment. (?Therefore), they are entertaining the illusion that the day will come when we will need their war equipment and will, consequently, to to them. What a mistake. This is yet another one of their mistakes in recognizing the Islamic revolution of Iran, for they think we rely on their weapons.

Carter and the leaders of the infidels must bear in mind that should it become necessary for us to defend the ideology of the Islamic revolution with our nails and teeth, we shall do this as a religious duty. We shall never consider ourselves in need of military equipment manufactured by the enemy.

America thinks that we are now engaged in this imposed war and that this as a good opportunity for the occupants of the White House, these traitors to humanity, to raise the issue of our need for war equipment and to raise the question of the hostages and to thus enter into a trade deal.

America must realize that in this land it is the Koran which rules, that where true Islam has taken roots, the people seek truth.

'No Bargaining'

JN181244 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1120 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary: "Carter's Showmanship and the Steady and Firm Character of the Islamic Revolution's Strategy"]

[Text] The Iranian prime minister has gone to the United Nations at a time when Islamic Iran is waging a war that was imposed on it. The prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran has gone to the UN Security Council at a time when Muslim Iran is holding the U.S. hostages and brokers in the U.S. are waging the presidential campaign.

Prime Minister 'Ali Mohammad Raja'i has gone to the United Nations to declare before the representatives of the world's countries Iran's stand on the aggressive war which has been ignited by an agent and fickle ruler.

At the time that brother Raja'i has gone to the international forum, political circles are living in an atmosphere which has its peculiarities that can be summarized as follows:

1. Iran is waging a liberation war against the unjust aggression against its western borders. Observers see in this war that Iran needs military supplies such as ammunition and spare parts.

2. The Muslim Iranian people are holding in Iran the symbols of the real aggression against the dignity of this country and of the perpetrators of the most atrocious conspiracies against the Iranian people. The U.S. hostages have been held captive on the people's initiative to regain the rights of the Muslim masses in Iran. The issue of the hostages is an Iranian-U.S. issue, the solution of which is an aspiration of the U.S. people.

3. The intensity of the U.S. presidential election campaigns is increasing. The U.S. President, Carter, is leading this campaign with a record full of failures which the masses of the Islamic revolution in Iran have inflicted on him.

Political maneuvering is taking place in this atmosphere and at a time when Islamic leaders have clearly and frankly stated the objectives of Mr Raja'i's trip.

Raja'i has gone to the United Nations to break the information siege imposed by the Zionist and Saddam Husayn's information media and to reveal to the international forum the scale of the aggressive onslaught launched by Saddam against the land of Islam. Raja'i has gone to explain to the world the inhumane nature of the aggression on behalf of Iran's Government and people. The trip of Mr Raja'i has and will have no other objectives. When the prime minister of the Islamic Republic left for the United Nations, the great despot Carter began to capitalize on and tried to take advantage of the trip for his presidential election campaign.

The hostages and the strategy of the Islamic Republic have destroyed President Carter's political future. He began to maneuver during his tour of constituencies in the United States, hoping that he could regain some of what he had lost when he was confronted with Islam in Iran and the issue of the hostages.

News agencies have reported that the dear loser has denounced Saddam Husayn's aggression and has held him responsible for the war. Why has Carter raised his voice when Raja'i left for the United Nations? Carter and his White House are very well aware that the conditions for the release of the hostages have been stated by the Islamic majlis and that these conditions are not subject to negotiation or discussion.

We reply that the brokers of international politics are brokers against the oppressed people and also against their citizens.

The dear loser, who in fact supported the Iraqi aggression on the military, political and information levels, has sought to appear before the American people as a person concerned about their interests and a fervent believer in settling the issue of the hostages. Carter says: I have done all I could to solve the issue. Have I not denounced the Iraqi aggression? Have I not suggested we are ready to provide Iran with spare parts in exchange for the hostages? Thus, I am working for the settlement of this U.S. problem and I reflect the aspirations of the U.S. people.

The world, however, knows with whose strategic support and fleet Saddam is fighting and that British and U.S. forces have concentrated in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

Iran and the world know who sent the espionage planes to the area and what kind of support the shah of Jordan, a genuine ally of the United States, has provided Iraq. Those who listen to the U.S. information media realize very well what kind of support this media is providing Saddam's aggression against the Republic of Islam.

The situation is even more clear at the United Nations. Why hasn't the United States denounced the Iraqi aggression offically? It is the outbidding of the rulers, the despots of this earth.

The stand of Islam in Iran remains clear and the strategy of our genuine revolution remains firm. "No" to bargaining [muzawadah] on the hostages. "No" to relations with the United States. "No" to any negotiation with any party that is linked to the aggression, the United States or to world imperialism.

Carter's Last Chance

JN200805 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1807 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Bit by bit, some of the threads of the U.S. plot against the Islamic Republic, being carried out through Saddam, are being exposed.

Carter realized that the date of the elections was approaching. He saw that his desperate attempts made him lose face with the electorate. The American people blame Carter's policy for all of the consequences of the U.S. defeats abroad. They also hold him responsible for the spy hostages held in Iran. This issue will determine his fate in the elections. [passage indistinct]

[Words indistinct] All you have to do is to push him to wage war against Iran. Iran will then find itself compelled to acquire spare parts. You will then say [words indistinct] ready to provide Iran with spare parts, in return for the release of the hostages. Iran will be forced to accept and [words indistinct] gain the support of the entire American people. You will score a brilliant success in the presidential elections and crush the [words indistinct] dispute.

Carter began to blow the trumpet for the aggressive war against Islam, not caring whether the Iraqi economy collapses and whether thousands among both Muslim peoples are killed.

The war broke out ignited by mad Saddam inspired by his satanic master. Carter began to count the days and hours, waiting for a statement or hint from Tehran of willingness to barter the spy hostages with spare parts. The master of the black house waited long [words indistinct] for ferocity of the war any word from any official in the state of Islam auguring a ray of hope. [Words indistinct] rumors circulating in New York that Iran would exchange the hostages for spare parts. The commercial information media, headed by Monte Carlo radio, began to raise a hue and cry and announce to all listeners that the deal had been concluded and that it amounts to $53 million. Shamelessly, unconscientiously and unabashed by the scandal, Carter wanted, through this step, to tell Iran that he is ready and cannot wait longer.

Carter lost patience and could not stop himself from taking the last chance available to hiem. He publicly announced in his election campaigns that he is ready to meet with Brother Raja'i to discuss the hostages crisis. Carter said this knowing that he is shooting the last arrow in his quiver. He thought that the time was ripe to reap the fruit of the rash plot being implemented by agent Saddam.

However, Carter was taken aback [words indistinct] the fresh slap by Islam at the hands of the brother prime minister, when he said: I am not ready to meet with any U.S. official, whether Carter or anybody elese.

This was the latest slap in the series of slaps dealt to arch-satan Carter by Islam. Nevertheless, Carter continues to [words indistinct]. Unitl the time comes for the (?final) slap, we bid you farewell.

DEFENSE COUNCIL'S HEADQUARTERS ISSUES STATEMENTS

Downing of MiG's

LD171701 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1640 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] According to the Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Defense Council, during an air raid on Tabriz this evening by a number of aggressive Iraqi MiG's, two MiG's were shot down by antiaircraft guns of the Islamic Iranian Army. Both planes crashed near the city. The East Azarbayjan governor general's office reports that during the Tabriz bombing by the aggressive MiG's, which took place at 1740, damage was inflicted on a microwave station and on the refinery. The extent of the damage has not yet been determined.

Destruction of Iraqi Posts

LD172214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] The Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Defense Council tonight announced that according to an informed official in the office of the Governorate General of Ilam, from 0730 to 1445 today personnel of the Airborne Division in the Ilam border region destroyed two Iraqi posts at Kapak Meshki and An Yazid. Two tanks, six guns positioned in Kapak Meshki and An Yazid as well as a truck carrying ammunition and an electric transformer in An Yazid township were destroyed. A number of fortifications around the two posts were also destroyed and 90 Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries killed.

Request for Cooperation From Officials

LD181543 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1458 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The following communication, addressed to all of the country's ministries, organs, and organizations, was issued today by the Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Defense Council:

In the name of God. By virtue of Imam Khomeyni's decree concerning the establishment of the Supreme Defense Council in order to make full and centralized use of all possibilities, facilities and information of the country's organs in the speediest manner, it is extremely necessary, considering the existing situation in the country, to have utmost cooperation and revolutionary responsibility.

Therefore, we call on all officials of the country's ministries, organizations and organs, whether governmental or private, to meet the needs of this headquarters, which shall be communicated by letter to this headquarters [as heard] without any waste of time and free from administrative procedures and formalities; for this type of cooperation, in view of the present state of affairs, is vital and is the religious duty of every individual committed to the Islamic revolution.

[Signed] Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Defense Council

Khorramshahr Renamed

LD200750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Oct 80

[Excerpts] The astounding epic by the forces of Islam on the country's borders still continues.

Due to the epic-making resistance of the people of Khorramshahr on 16 October, the Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Depense Council, as proposed by one of the warriors of that front, has renamed Khorramshahr Khuninshahr [city of blood], and called this day Khuninshahr Day".

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

195: Destruction of Iraqi Base

LD171723 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Communique 195 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Our Muslim and committed Iranian compatriots: The brave warriors of the ground forces' airborne unit are doing whatever they can to chastise the infidel enemy for his inhuman acts. The airborne's courageous fighters yesterday--16 October--at 1600 destroyed an Iraqi border base [name indistinct] at the Ilam battle-front. They also destroyed 12 tanks and 1 truck and killed a number of Iraqi soldiers. Moreover, at 0900 today, they attacked enemy units in Khuzestan, Bostan and Susangerd, and succeeded in destroying 10 tanks and some vehicles of the Ba'thist infidels.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

196: Forces Congratulated on Victories

LD171812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Communique 196 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. [Koranic verse in Arabic: "O ye Islamic soldiers, annihilate the infidels from the surface of the earth through your bloody battle so that there no longer remains a center for perfidy and plots and so that God's religion may cast its shadow over the earth"]

Brave Muslim compatriots: The army of Islam, composed of the ground, naval and air forces of the Islamic Republic as well as the gendarmerie, the police, the revolution guards corps and the popular forces, is standing like a long and impregnable dam before the aggressive and mercenary enemy. Our forces launch attacks against the enemy at opportune moments, inflicting lethal blows.

According to the latest report, the brave warriors of the revolutionary forces in Abadan and Khorramshahr have, in an act of unparalleled courage, inflicted heavy losses on the aggressive enemy, forcing it to retreat. Moreover, the casualties inflicted by our brave air force have perplexed the enemy. Greetings to you warriors and selfless frontline fighters. May God be with you.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

197: Repair of Vehicles

LD181722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Communique 197 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear revolutionary compatriots:

In these sensitive and fateful moments, when the soldiers of Islam are engaged in an unceasing battle against the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries and infidels in the western and southwestern borders of the country, our brave border guards and protectors are relying only on the support of you committed and faithful forces. While expressing its boundless gratitude for the unreserved help provided by the various classes of the Muslim nation, who are lovingly helping their brother soldiers by giving their property and lives in these special conditions governing the country, the Islamic Army of Iran calls on all the technicians and repairmen of various repair shops and technical car companies to maintain military vehicles, side by side with their brother soldiers: There are the vehicles which require repair. By doing this, they will be fulfilling their religious and patriotic duties. Volunteers may obtain any further information by ringing these telephone numbers in Tehran: 856952 and 844250; and in provinces by contacting relief centers and military repair shops.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

198: Navy Personnel Praised

LD181738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Communique 198 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear revolutionary and Muslim compatriots: The Islamic Republic of Iran's naval personnel, like other armed forces personnel, are selflessly engaged in the various battlefronts in the war between Islam and blasphemy; they are achieving certain success in annihilating the enemy.

According to the latest reports from the battlefields, all navy personnel are safe, enjoying extremely strong and high morale. The families of these epic-making heroes who are hunting field guns and tanks by means of their unshakable will and faith, and who have risen to inflict damage on the columns of the infidel enemy, should feel utmost pride and remain calm. It ought to be mentioned that the following telephone numbers are available 24 hours a day to answer any inquiry by the families of the heroes of the Islamic Iranian Navy: in Tehran: 812224, 847604, 848034, 852075 and 859384, and in Bushehr, 3045.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

199: Telephone Numbers for Inquiries

LD181742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Communique 199 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. This is to inform the hero-nurturing families of those personnel of the Islamic Republic's Air Force who are engaged in war in the south and western part of the country against the Ba'thist infidels that to obtain necessary information about their relatives they may ring these telephone numbers every day: 346070 and 345063.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

200: Successes in Ilam Area

LD182200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Communique 200 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Combative Iranian nation: The warriors and the heroes of the airborne ground forces, these high-flying skyhawks, in the course of a calculated and unexpected operation this morning, 18 October, against the infidel Ba'thist mercenary camp stationed along Ilam border areas, launched an attack and inflicted heavy damages on their equipment and personnel.

In another raid by these same heroes on a group of Iraqi mercenaries in Ilam area, the following damage was inflicted: One 50-caliber machinegun, three 23-mm fieldguns, five light fieldguns, one tank, one artillery observation post and one concrete bunker with a capacity of 100 were totally destroyed.

Moreover, in the course of today's operation, the airborne heroes succeeded in destroying 2 tanks and 1 vehicle and killing 70 enemy mercenaries in the western part of the country. Meanwhile, in the Ilam area, one Iraqi private sought asylum in the arms of the Islamic Republic and was warmly welcomed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

201: Gendermarie Losses

LD190436 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Communique 201 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Hail to the indefatigable, powerful, Muslim warriors of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These warriors are constantly striving to safeguard and preserve every inch of this land alongside their other military and revolution guards brothers and the people's fighting force. Greetings to each member of the brave gendarmerie, those who are triumphantly and gloriously performing their religious and patriotic duties and missions in defending the holy soil of Iran and (?bringing) destruction upon the evil Iraqi infidels and mercenaries.

According to reports, the gendarmerie forces stationed in the Gilan-e Gharb axis attacked the enemy with the utmost bravery on 15 October and forced the aggressive Ba'thist mercenaries to retreat 8 km. In this epic-making battle, the self-sacrificing gendarmerie displayed their battleworthiness in an outstanding fashion.

In this operation, Maj 'Ali Bevglari, one of the brave officers of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was martyred and a conscript, Taqi Osku'i, was reported missing.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

202: Airborne Operations in Bostan

GF191610 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Communique 202 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued on 19 October]

[Text] In His exalted name. O heroic Muslim Iranian citizens, your valiant brothers of the ground forces' Airborne Division, in their operations today in the Bostan area, inflicted punishing blows on the aggressor enemy.

They destroyed one tank and three tents at an assembly point of the aggressor forces. A number of enemy personnel were also killed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

205: Iraqi Retreat from Gilan-e Gharb

LD192212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2105 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Communique 205 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Muslim, revolutionary compatriots: Following successive battles by the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenary forces yesterday, gendarmerie units in the Gilan-e Gharb sector forced the enemy to retreat in hand-to-hand fighting and captured the heights overlooking enemy positions from the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries with a victorious onslaught.

At 1030 today, following attacks by the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, fully backed by the ground forces, an ammunition and equipment depot belonging to the Iraqi Ba'thist forces, several vehicles and Iraqi posts were completely destroyed.

From 1330, the artillery emplacements of the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries were brought under the artillery fire of the forces of the Islamic Revolution, as a result of which an enemy equipment depot was blown up and four pieces of the enemy's khamsah-khamsah [Arabic term meaning "five-five"] artillery were destroyed and the service personnel of the enemy artillery were killed.

In addition, two enemy tanks were destroyed by the artillery fire of the ground forces and their lookouts were forced to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Ilsmaic Republic of Iran

206: Kermanshah, Ilam Successes

LD200628 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Oct 80

[Communique 206 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. O Muslim nation and honorable people of Iran: The following account of the battles of the brave warriors of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which had taken place with the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenary forces on 19 October, is brought to the dear fellow warriors:

1. The Airborne Division warriors, with successful attacks on the mercenary enemy on the western and southern fronts yesterday morning, were able to destroy five tanks, two artillery pieces, ten heavy and light vehicles, five bunkers full of tanks and vehicles and three bunkers full of enemy personnel. During these attacks about 200 Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries were killed. During yesterday's operations by the Airborne Division, two helicopters were hit by enemy bullets, but fortunately the damage is slight.

2. According to reports from the gendarmerie, the Ba'thist Iraqi forces fired ground-to-ground missiles on Gilan-e Gharb at midnight on 18 October. No damage or casualties were reported.

In response the Airborne Division forces opened fire on the enemy in this area. Also, according to reports received from Ilam Province, a Muslim guerrilla group ambushed the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries at night on 20 October and destroyed 22 tanks and armored vehicles and 22 enemy vehicles carrying ammunition, and killed 25 Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

207: 19 Oct Battle Report

LD201244 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Oct 80

[Communique 207 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear compatriots: The courageous fighters of the Islamic Republic Gendarmerie yesterday, 19 October, succeeded in an offensive operation in the western part of the country to drive out the infidel Ba'thists from their positions and kill a number of mercenaries. In the course of this offensive, certain quantities of the enemy's weapons and equipment were captured.

Moreover, in another area in the western part of the country, the infidel enemy forces assaulted our forces. However, our brave forces, putting up a great fight, inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy, forcing them to retreat. One of the mercenaries' tanks was destroyed. Our forces suffered four martyred and one wounded.

COMMENTARY SCORES ZIAUL HAQ'S 'PRO-U.S. POLICY'

GF192022 Zahedan International Service in Urdu 1315 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] General Zia has advised the people of Pakistan to remain neutral in the Iranian-Iraqi war at a time when he has demonstrated his pro-American policy in the region. For a few million dollars from the U.S., he paved the way for American Islam under the guise of helping the Afghan mujahidin. He also held an Islamic conference in his capital.

When the Iraqi Government failed in its assessment of the war with Iran, he came to Tehran and then went to Baghdad. He then went to Washington and London to meet Carter and Mrs Thatcher. General Zia has friendly relations with Saudi Arabia, Iraqi and the United Arab Emirates and had received aid from these countries many times. He is, therefore, toeing their line in this conflict and is advising the people of Pakistan to remain neutral in this war.

COMMENTARY REVIEWS IRANIAN-PAKISTANI RELATIONS

GF191938 Zahedan International Service in Urdu 1530 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] News agencies have reported from Islamabad that General Ziaul Haq has told the people of Pakistan to remain neutral on the Iranian-Iraqi war. General Zia has issued this statement at a time when thousands of Pakistani lawyers and journalists, despite the rigors of censorship, have asked the people to demonstrate and observe a 1-day strike on the occasion of the birthday of [name indistinct]. These lawyers and journalists are supporting Iran and condemning Iraq in this war.

A study of the history of relations between Iran and Pakistan will reveal how the imperialists and their agents divided these nations in various periods in spite of the religious, cultural and linguistic bonds between the two nations. The British imperialists in the last century used Pakistani Muslim soldiers under the title of Indian soldiers against us.

In spite of the fact that army dictators have been suppressing this nation since 1947, when this country came into being, the Pakistani people support Iran with their hearts and souls. The great poet of Pakistan, Allama Iqbal, used to take pride in the fact that his poetry was in Persian. There are numerous examples of fraternity between the peoples of Pakistan and Iran, and the Iranian revolution provided yet another opportunity for them to show these sentiments.

Last year at the beginning of Muharram--on the eve of the rebellion of people in the Arabian Peninsula, the suppression of people by the Saudi Government and the bombardment of the house of God with the help of foreign commandos--the Pakistani people staged large demonstrations against the real source of the conspiracy, namely, the United States, and burned the American Embassy and other imperialist bases in Pakistan. These demonstrations, which were inspired by the revolution in Iran, were staged against the government of General Zia and his pro-American policy in the Indian Ocean. These demonstrations provided a pretext for General Zia to suppress the freedom-loving people and stifle the political atmosphere. He acknowledged the damage done to the U.S. property in Pakistan and promised to rebuild the U.S. Embassy building with money from the people of Pakistan.

It may be mentioned that Pakistan's relationship with Iran is not the only cause of dissatisfaction with General Zia's government. The reasons are to be found in the basic structure of Pakistani society, the inequitable distribution of wealth, the suppression by the present regime and its stifling of political freedom.

COMMENTARY SAYS U.S. WILL 'THROW HUSAYN ASIDE'

GF151244 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0437 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] By following the trends in the world news media, one can realize the dimensions of the conspiracy plotted at the highest levels of infidelity and conspiration by colonialist circles. The task of implementing this conspiracy was assigned to the agent regimes in the region, each of which knew well which part it had to play. Thus while the task of launching the war was assigned to Saddam and his 'Aflaqi gang, the shah of Jordan was assigned the task of [word indistinct] so as to give the war [words indistinct] beside the rest of the roles which were assigned to the others.

We need not anticipate matters which will be exposed spontaneously sooner or later. However, by following the news media we can highlight the implications of the visits which certain Western politicians pay to some of the region's states.

Dear listener, do you find yourself confused by reports on the devastating war between Iran and Iraq? You find the infidel news media, which are skilled in the service of colonialism and the colonizers, continuously reporting heroic achievements by Saddam's mercenaries, successive victories, their alleged occupation of Khorramshahr, alleged occupation of Ahvaz, Dezful and other cities. The infidel news media were not content with doing only this; many of them went further to predict Saddam's conquests, as Radio Monte Carlo did. All this consolidated support by agents for Saddam, their efforts to render their news media means of supporting him, shows the listener the extent of malice which the colonizers have against Islam and its victorious revolution--a revolution that has upset the balance of power in the world and revived Islam as an international power to be feared and respected.

If we examine some of the dimensions of this ugly campaign in which Saddam was appointed as the spearhead, we find the following:

1. The United States has failed to force the Islamic state to its knees. All its plans were doomed to failure.

2. Escalation of the Islamic revolution in Iraq has begun to threaten the fate of Saddam and his gang, thus allowing for the spread of the Islamic revolution on the one hand and establishment of an Islamic force consisting of the Islamic Army of Iraq and the Islamic Army of Iran. Those two countries possess huge economic resources, in itself a factor that threatens Israel and the rest of the colonizers' interests in the region.

3. All the infidel efforts to dissociate the Islamic masses from their great victorious revolution have failed. Therefore, a new tactic had to be implemented.

These three points made imperialist circles employ their agent Saddam to play his last card. If he wins, this is what the masters want; if he losses, Israel, which is the base of the infidel colonizers in the region, will have eliminated the Islamic threat for a long time to come. Thus, this war will no doubt weaken both of the Islamic armies in Iraq and Iran, and the superpowers will be able to widen the gap and create differences between the Islamic masses in the Arab world and the Islamic revolution in Iran.

But have the imperialist circles taken into account Saddam's failure, and have they prepared themselves for such a consequence? We believe that the imperialist circles have, since they inspired Saddam to play this role and assigned him the duty of launching the war against the Islamic Republic, thus dooming him to extinction. The colonial circles are counting on a replacement for Saddam who will enable them to control Iraq in the future. Then they will be able to plot new conspiracies that may protect them from the threats of the expansion of the great Islamic revolution and the spread of the ideology of struggle among Muslims.

As we see it the imperialists plan to exhaust Saddam and throw him aside when he can't run the country any longer. He does not enjoy as much as an atom of the people's confidence because of the terrifying massacres which he has committed against the pioneers of the Islamic revolution in Iraq and as the result of the growing revolutionary feeling among the Muslim Iraqi people. All these factors necessitated the need to think of another agent who would use islam as a cover to implement the rest of the infidels' evil and ugly colonial plans.

Just as previous imperialist plans were crushed on the steadfast rock of the Iranian Muslim people and army, the new plans will, with God's help, founder on the steadfast rock of our Muslim people and army in Islamic Iraq. The mercenary infidel news media will find themselves forced to tell the truth as they did before when the Islamic revolution in Iran escalated and succeeded against the buried shah. In the future Radio Monte Carlo, the BBC and other hireling trumpets will not benefit from baseless pretexts, and they will not be bought by oil.

TEHRAN RADIO PRAISES PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION'S SUPPORT

JN180901 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0543 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] The splendor of the Islamic surge is becoming apparent among the oppressed, who, as a result of their tribulations, sense the values of unity based on ideological principles.

The Palestinian people have suffered from the crimes of the colonialists and their agents. They have experienced dispersion, death and usurpation of rights. The Muslim Iranian people are now experiencing the same sufferings. They are being subjected to indiscriminate and destructive shelling of peaceful civilians, which has shocked all the live consciences in the world.

Statements by officials of both sides show that the two sides are linked by close ties. In these critical circumstances, Brother Salah Khalaf, one of the most prominent leaders of the Palestinian revolution, has stated that the Palestinian revolution supports the Iraqi people and the Islamic revolution in Iran and that the Palestinian revolution cannot oppose a revolution which has hoisted the Palestinian flag instead of the Zionist flag.

This loyalty has infuriated the infidels because this cohesion has voided many of the enemies' claims, particularly that the war is between two nationalities. All the oppressed have realized that the war is a war between principles. It is a war between Islam, which seeks to impose its values in daily affairs, and atheism, which seeks to fight Islam.

Islam will triumph with the defeat of the infidel colonialists like Saddam and the shah of Jordan and with the victory of the oppressed under the leadership of the great Imam Khomeyni and those who are pursuing his sound course.

Greetings of admiration to the Palestinian revolution which is looking forward to the triumph of its cause with the support of millions of oppressed.

It will be an inevitable victory for all mujahidin, God willing.

18-19 OCT ANNOUNCEMENTS TO AHVAZ CITIZENS REPORTED

Red Alert Warning

GF180449 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Dear fellow countrymen: The siren that you will hear shortly indicates that the condition is red. This means that there is a likely danger of an air raid. Please remain calm and leave your place of work and go to the shelters. [sound of siren]

[Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian repeats this announcement at the following times: 0618, 0855 and 1107 GMT on 18 October; and, 1310 and 1810 GMT on 19 October]

Red Alert Instructions

GF191545 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1527 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] Dear listeners: The siren you are about to hear is the red alert signal. [sound of siren for 2 minutes] When the condition is announced to be red, you must pay attention to the following points and take the following steps: If you are at home, turn off the water, main power switch and gas; do not use elevators; take shelter in the basement of your building and do not lose your temper. If you are outside your house, lie down in a ditch or near a wall and avoid lighting matches or smoking cigarettes. If you are driving a vehicle, park it immediately in a corner and turn off the lights. Avoid spreading rumors. Leave your radios on to receive information and instructions. The most important task one can fulfill under these conditions is to remain calm and guide other citizens.

Reporters To 'Obtain Permission'

GF171337 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1324 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Announcement No 13 issued by the Ahvaz security headquarters--no date given]

[Text] All foreign and Iranian reporters are hereby informed that they must obtain written permission from the Khuzestan governor general's office prior to shooting films or taking pictures. Any unlicensed activity will be stopped, and those individuals not complying will be arrested by the forces of order and taken to security headquarters.

New Sugar Department Location

GF181434 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] The Ahvaz sugar department announces that its new location is Khaghani Street next to the Ja'fari school. Sugar distributors can report to the above address or telephone 22246.

Water Authority Information on Trenches

GF190738 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0728 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] This is Ahvaz, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Ahvaz Water Authority requests citizens who intend to dig trenches to contact it beforehand to obtain the necessary information and advice.

Air Raid on Railway Station

LD190738 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0728 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] According to our correspondent's report from Ahvaz, at 0845 the mercenary Iraqis during the course of an air raid attacked with missles the railway station and houses belonging to the employees of Ahvaz railway station and destroyed several houses belonging to innocent people.

During the course of this attack, Ahvaz's Taleqani school and two newsstands opposite the railway station were damaged; one of the inhabitants was martyred and three were quite severely injured.

The report says that the air raid was so severe that it could have left a large number of people dead or injured, yet through God Almighty's kindness, fortunately the number of casualties is small.

Communique on Fifth Column

GF191600 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Communique No 16 issued by the Ahvaz security headquarters--no date given]

[Excerpts] In the name of the exalted. In these vital and crucial days, writing, printing and publishing any and all types of banners and announcements should be handled by responsible centers and devoted organizations. Therefore, all security forces and dear Ahvaz citizens are requested to prevent and halt all these activities being carried out by the enemy's fifth column in an attempt to weaken the morale of our Muslim combatants. All those not obeying the above order will be prosecuted.

Haft Gel Volunteer Registration

GF191556 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Oct 80

Text] The following communique has been issued by the clergy mobilization aid headquarters for the city of Haft Gel:

We hereby announce to the courageous and combatant tribes of Haft Gel and its surrounding districts that the second stage of registration at the tribal mobilization headquarters has begun. All interested volunteers wishing to register for the military training course are requested to report to this headquarters at Hojjat mosque with two photographs and the necessary information.

Warning to Iraqi Artillery Personnel

GF191701 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] This is a warning addressed to the enemy artillery personnel stationed in Dasht: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Believers: Fear God as he should be feared, and let not death overtake you except when you are in a state of submission. Dear brothers, artillery personnel stationed in [name indistinct]: You must fear only God, observe him in your deeds and struggle for the sake of God and the victory of Islam. Dear brothers, let us unite against world imperialism and its Zionist ally, the occupier of Palestine, and cut the hand that separates Muslims in order to save the defenseless and innocent from destruction and death. Saddam at-Tikriti has deceived you, and he is trying in vain to shed your blood and the blood of Muslims in Iran and Iraq to serve his masters, who are hostile to the divine, exalted principles and the humane Islamic values.

We ask you, what did the Muslim peoples in Iran and Iraq do to deserve all this destruction, devastation, loss of life and property? We ask you, why is the blood of these innocent people being shed and why are these women, old people and children being killed? You have killed and injured many defenseless people in Khuzestan through your arbitrary shelling. Why, and in whose interest?

You still have a chance to repent and embrace Islam. God is forgiving and merciful. We will welcome you with gratitude. For the last time, we will hold you responsible for this warning. There is no plea for those who receive warnings. We will no longer bear the responsibility of the blood you shed nor your service to U.S. imperialism and its agents. We will treat the infidels as we treated the buried shah and the traitorous SAVAK. Death to the arrogant tyrants led by the United States! Long live the Islamic solidarity of the peoples of Iran and Iraq! Victory to Islam!

[Signed] The public relations office of the Ahvaz Revolution Guards, 19 October 1980

19 Oct Earthquakes

LD192222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2118 GMT 19 Oct 80

[Text] Tehran University Geophysics department reports that at 2055 tonight an earthquake with an intensity of 5 on the Richter scale in an area 500 km southwest of Tehran was recorded at Tehran seismological center.

At 2100, a relatively mild earthquake shook Ahvaz and its surroundings up to the Tang-e Fanni axis for 15 seconds. There are no reports of any possible loss of life or damage. The geophysics institute of Tehran University confirmed the news of the earthquake and said that the earthquake had certainly damaged some villages. The institute did not announce the intensity of the earthquake.

REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN ABADAN, KHORRAMSHAHR

Army Commander's Radio Address

GF171708 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1438 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Radio message by Abadan and Khorramshahr operational army commander--no name given--broadcast on 17 October--presumably recorded]

[Text] Dear citizens, Khuzestani brothers: This is the commander of the southern operational area speaking to you. You are all aware of the situation in the two cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr--better than I. The enemy, coldheartedly and contrary to the conventions of war, is bombarding our cities from within Iraqi soil. The enemy does not think about where these shells fall in our defenseless cities. Look at international military history and see if you can find a similar case; there is no precedence for this anywhere in the world. Since they cannot fight us face to face, and when they see their destroyed tanks and personnel carriers around Khorramshahr, they go to the [words indistinct] and shell us. It does not matter, we can withstand this.

Our message is more for the soldiers, officers, guards and all those who are fighting this enemy at the fronts at this moment. We have accepted martyrdom and are prepared to defend the honor of our country to the last person and the last bullet. The Iraqi commanders must know that even if they attack Khorramshahr and Abadan a hundred times more we will defeat them. But history will pass judgment on both of us. Where are those who always speak of human rights? Why is it that those who consider themselves champions of human rights are not coming to see the situation in our two cities? Why are they not coming to see the dastardly shelling from inside Iraqi soil?

If they are men then why do they not fight our military personnel? We did not choose this forced war; they did. They should know that we are defenders. Until they are on our sacred soil neither we nor the nation will be still. We are not alone. If there are [words indistinct] here our happiness is because the nation has moved. Sooner or later, the nation will teach them a lesson. I am only a part of this nation. They will be taught a lesson that will make them forget about attacking Iran forever. We have an ideology--we fight for God. We do not believe in materialism. We follow our school and are becoming martyrs for this school, our religion and our homeland. I implore you soldiers, officers, NCO's, revolution guards and forces of the people to prepare yourselves for a serious defense and then an effective attack. My dear brothers, be certain that you are not alone. The Iranian nation is with you. The whole nation has mobilized, and the Iranian nation will respond to all the cowardly attacks by the Iraqi Ba'thist government. They even shot at a helicopter I had sent to collect the bodies of the dead and injured. [passage indistinct] They claim they are defending Arabs, but they are hurting this entire nation.

They say they have come to free you, but they are hurting you. All this will be clear to the world one day. My sorrow is that none of those who constantly shout their defense of human rights on radios has bothered to come to Khorramshahr or Abadan to see how prisoners are taken by these cowards. My message to you people of Abadan and Khorramshahr is that you are the commanders. I have no authority over you. I can be no more than an instructor for you. I have seen; I have visited. You have prepared yourselves for a defense and then an attack. Be vigilant and remain certain of victory since God is on our side. We are not fighting for the world's riches. I offer my congratulations and condolences to the families of all those who have become martyrs in this war, and I pray to God that I may become a martyr and have my grave in the frontier of my country. I ask the soldiers, officers, guards, the people's militia and all those who have joined us from different groups to organize and protect their trenches. Use your ammunition at the right time. Use the rooftops and any other necessary place. Surprise the enemy whenever you can. We will fight like men. If you take prisoners treat them kindly--as you have done before.

We will not shell any defenseless Iraqi cities. The thing that has surprised me is that the people of Iraq are quiet. Why do you believe them? [Ba'thists] Do you know anything about the situation? Are you not informed? Why have you remained quiet? Have you forgotten you are Muslims? Have you forgotten they are hitting us, who speak of the Koran? Why are you quiet? Be certain that the history of Islam will not forgive you. Iraqi people, tribes of the Tigris and Euphrates, the history of Islam will not forgive you. The war will end sooner or later. When the war is over they will write about what happened. Being sorry then will do you no good. Therefore, do not allow them to destroy Islam. Do not allow them to fight it. All those who have fought Islam have been defeated. They will be defeated sooner or later. You will be sorry if you do not move soon. You have remained quiet while they have been destroying Muslims.

Instead of taking their army toward Israel, the enemy of Islam, they send their tanks to our sacred Muslim country. What have we said? What has our nation asked for? Our nation said it wanted to stand on its own feet. Did we say otherwise? We only said we want the superpowers to leave us alone. Is this a crime? Should they use Saddam Husayn as an instrument and mobilize forces from all corners of the world--from a country whose people, Shi'a or Sunni, are under the flag of Islam--to attack us like this? It does not matter. We will defeat this attack.

As the Iranians say, the winter will go and its black face will be left for the coal. The people of Iraq will have to answer to history. They will have to answer to the history of Islam. I hope you act quickly before time is lost so that you do not become sorry.

Brothers of Khorramshahr, brothers of Abadan, you have defeated the armored attack of the Iraqi Ba'thist army five times. Prepare for more attacks. So long as we live, Khorramshahr and Abadan will be [words indistinct]. So long as we are here, Khorramshahr will remain Khorramshahr, not Muhammarah. I will only tell you, the people and the forces that are [words indistinct], rely on God. Dear soldiers, brother officers and guards: Maintain your position strongly on the front. We are making history; we have created epics. We have attracted the interest of all military experts. Two unequal forces, and the smaller one ie defeating the larger! This is not us, it is our flag and our God. Be victorious. If I get an opportunity I will talk to you via the radio again.

Since I am not reading anything to you and am speaking to you from my heart, forgive me with your magnanimity for any mistakes I have made. I am proud of you, who are fighting in the streets, have moved to rooftops, occupied doors and walls [as heard] and are fighting with love. Hail to the souls of all soldiers, officers, people's militia and all the people who have made and changed history in the Abadan-Khorramshahr front and have even changed the military doctrine of war. These are not my words. These are the words of military experts who have looked (at the war). The BBC radio even made this statement last night: "The people of Abadan and Khorramshahr have attracted attention and created astonishment throughout the world."

This may be a lesson to Iraqi officers and soldiers. You cannot fight us. It is better that you join us since you are Muslims, too. Those who have joined us said that if they had not come forward and fired on Iranians they would have been shot in the back. It does not matter. Let the Ba'thists kill you from behind and become martyrs. I thank the brother takavar units, who have been and still are the main nucleus of resistance, and all the forces--I do not remember some of their names at the moment--especially takavaran forces, who jump on the (enemy's) head like an eagle from every corner. I thank the people who help us. I thank the mosques, which are the resistance centers. I thank all those who arm people and all those who have guns and clean them and are moving in the streets with motorcycles and cars. I also thank all others. As an Iranian Muslim, I advise those who cooperate with the enemy--those who for material reasons or political ideas have been fooled by the enemy and are cooperating with them--to stop these actions.

This war will eventually end to our benefit. Do you know why? Because the Iranian nation has moved. Neither I nor the people of Abadan and Khorramshahr are fighting the Iraqi Ba'thist army alone. You will see that the entire nation has mobilized with or without arms and is moving toward Khorramshahr and Abadan. [passage indistinct] we will make this the graveyard of the aggressors. Then you will be sorry [word indistinct]. Your children were born in Iran. Do not sell Iran to foreigners. You will be sorry. Stop while there is time. Stop flashing lights at night and the [words indistinct]. There is no question of leadership. The people are their own commanders, defending their cities, their homeland.

Let us assume you inform the enemy about one place. Can you inform them of all houses? You cannot. Stop it. I ask you, I implore you to return. Do not cancel your identity cards [this is done when a person dies]. Return and join our forces and do not help the enemy. Be sure that so long as there is one person alive in these two cities, one Iraqi cannot set foot in them.

May God be with you, and I wish success for our country, our nation, the leader and all those whose hearts beat for this country. If the opportunity comes, I will talk to you again. Be successful. I offer my congratulations and condolences to all families hearing my voice whose relatives have been martyred in Abadan, Khorramshahr or any other front under my responsibility. Be certain that your children will never be forgotten by the Iranian nation. May God be with all of you. May Islam and the Islamic revolution be victorious.

Citizens to Relocate Trenches

GF171540 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 1500 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] This is Abadan NIOC radio, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear citizens, please pay attention: The barriers and trenches erected on public roads last night for a possible enemy attack are blocking streets in some areas. This is causing problems for emergency vehicles, ambulances and the night duty patrol. We ask you to relocate these trenches and barriers so this problem can be alleviated.

Air Force Successes

LD171742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] According to a PARS report, the committed and heroic pilots of the Islamic Republic's Air Force have succeeded in destroying a reserve enemy column on the west of Karkheh river, near the (Qo'in Khos) hills. Our brave pilots bombed a number of enemy columns planning to enter Khorramshahr, inflicted heavy losses on them and, at the same time, thwarted enemy air raids.

Iraqi Retreat From Khorramshahr

LD171822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1640 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Text] The PARS NEWS AGENCY this afternoon reported from Khorramshahr that the Iraqi Ba'thist forces who have attacked civilians and have been trying to capture the city are now evacuating their positions one after another in a state of defeat and disgrace after witnessing the resistance by waves of the city defenders. According to this report the Iraqi mercenaries continue to retreat, leaving behind their arms and ammunition, following severe resistance by the army of Islam and the soldiers defending the Islamic revolution in Khorramshahr.

The report states that the defenders of the revolution and the brave soldiers who are fighting the enemy street by street and from trench to trench up to 1700 have been able to disgrace the enemy and repulse him from their homes. The enemy once again has been blinded by the bravery of those seeking to become martyrs.

PARS reports that the Abadan-Khorramshahr road is still open. In order to avoid possible danger and to safeguard passengers, the brave fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran are only allowing heavy vehicles and cold storage vehicles to use this road.

According to the report, the city of Abadan this afternoon was comparatively calm, and up to 1700, the time this report was filed, no clashes were reported except shelling by the heavy artillery of both sides. The morale of the city inhabitants is high and the Abadan inhabitants with their increasing resistance are ready to counter possible attacks by soldiers of the mercenary Saddam.

Also today the activities of the brave forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly the brave personnel of the air force and the navy commandos, have been very great in crushing the Iraqi mercenaries in Khorramshahr and Abadan.

Attack on Abadan Hospital

LD172142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2100 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Excerpt] According to a PARS report from Abadan, in order to avenge the defeat they have suffered in Khorramshahr, at 1950 today the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries launched a missile attack on the Abadan relief hospital, a part of the Red Crescent. As a result 8 people were martyred and another 11 were wounded.

NIOC Radio Report

GF180445 Abadan NIOC Radio in Persian 0427 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Excerpts] Dear citizens, heroic people of Abadan and Khorramshahr: Abadan's Emdadgaran Hospital was rocketed last night. This cowardly attack, which if not unparalleled with the greatest murders and wars in history, has very few equals. Four of the hospital's personnel were martyred and many were injured. Parts of the hospital were damaged and a section set on fire.

In the fighting 2 nights ago in Khorramshahr one of the doctors with the Esfahan emergency unit, Doctor Sadeqi, was martyred. The aggressive and faithless Ba'thist forces, who have no sense of freedom and humanity also attacked an ambulance carrying three injured and three emergency staff to the hospital and martyred all six.

Hand-to-Hand Fighting

LD181158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] According to the correspondent of the Central News Bureau in Abadan, the residential areas of Khorramshahr are under heavy rocket and shell fire by the Ba'thist infidels, and hand-to-hand fighting between the fighting forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Ba'thist aggressor forces is still continuing around the city and the slaughterhouse and [names indistinct].

In Abadan too, Ba'thist forces outside the city are shelling the residential areas. According to this report, the artillery of the Islamic Republic of Iran is pounding the treacherous Ba'thist positions and the guards corps and the honorable people of the champion-raising land of Abadan with other military brothers will fight to the death against the godless aggressors.

Employee Leave Canceled

GF181408 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Oct 80

[Text] The following announcement was issued by the acting governor general of Khuzestan:

In the name of the exalted. We hereby announce to all Khuzestan Government employees that all authorized leaves have been canceled. All employees should report to their respective departments by 22 October 1980.